

NORTHANTS Herald & Post



Your normal paper is inside this special cover

Thursday, June 9, 2016

SAT 11TH JUNE 2016
FROM 12 NOON TO 7.30PM RACECOURSE PARK

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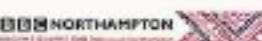
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FIVE CONTINENTS... ONE CARNIVAL

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INSIDE

Thursday, June 9, 2016 | Issue number: 1974 | northampton-news-hp.co.uk | 40p where sold

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Hundreds pay respect

Hundreds of mourners turned out in brightly coloured clothing for the funeral of a popular Northampton woman who was tragically killed along with three friends in a car crash.

Around 500 family and friends gathered at St Aidan's church in Kingsthorpe on Tuesday to 'celebrate' the life of 21-year-old Brogan Warren, who died in a head-on collision in Oxfordshire last month.

Many covered their faces in glitter and dyed their hair in rainbow colours, as they said their final goodbyes to the former Thomas Beckett pupil - whose body was carried in a wicker casket and taken to the church in a horse-drawn carriage.

After a 45-minute service, Brogan's body was taken to Kingsthorpe Cemetery where she was buried.

BRIGHT COLOURS:
Hundreds of Brogan's friends and family gathered to pay their respects, many choosing to dress in bright colours

Come on council sell it:



NH1

BY NICHOLAS BIEBER
nicholas.bieber@hpnorthants.co.uk

Northampton Borough Council is being urged to sell the mayor's private number plate - worth over £250,000 - to help save Shopmobility.

Last week it was revealed Northampton Shopmobility, which hires out mobility scooters for £3 a use,

would be closing in September because its funding from the council has been cut from £11,000 to £8,000.

At Monday's full council meeting, the Tory-led authority faced angry reactions from members of the public, including campaigner Phil Leach, who pointed out the 'NH1' number plate on the mayor's car was worth £250,000. Mr Leach is now calling for the idea of

selling the plate to be put to a poll, saying: "I feel the sacrifice should be made to sell up and support essential public services."

However, an NBC spokesperson said: "Funding and budgetary responsibilities are incredibly complex - it is not as simple as selling the number plate to fund one particular organisation."



A dramatic day out for pupils from Roade as their coaches battle back through storms and traffic jams

PAGE 24

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#snapjustice



#Snapjustice knows everyone has got an excuse and they all stink.

One angry H&P reader sent in this picture of two cars blocking a van on the corner of Ivy Road and Abington Avenue in Northampton.

The displeased reader, who took the picture last Saturday evening, said: "Let's hope this builder doesn't have to work Sunday!"

You can send your Snapjustice pictures to us via Facebook at

NorthantsHeraldPost, or on Twitter at @NorthamptonUK.

You can email us at news@hpnorthants.co.uk.

All pictures are published anonymously.

text2text



Where is your favourite spot in the world?

Anywhere near the sea, far away enough for peace but a close enough drive.

What was the last thing you broke?

Ooh I can't even remember, probably my lipstick, but that's a good excuse to buy more.

If Vicky Stuart was a drink what drink would she be?

Earl Grey Tea, in a pretty tea cup with a saucer.

What was the name of your teddy bear when you were a child?

Mr Cuddles, he was a clown and had a dickie bow.

What is your favourite sandwich?

Brie and smoked salmon.

What is the one thing you have lost or broken which you want to get back?

Haha! Does my sanity count? I lost a lot of my life after suffering from anxiety.

Which song makes you emotional or makes you cry?

I'm terribly over emotional now. Days by The Kinks always gets to me though.

Who is the most famous person you have met face to face?

Paul Jones from the Manfreds or Colin Blunstone from the Zombies.

Editor's Letter



Are we becoming blind to all the real austerity out there?

A couple of years ago, when it became clear that it would be necessary for the poor to go without to pay for the sins of the bankers, we were introduced to the idea of austerity.

In the 1980s, economic hard times meant people losing their jobs and homes.

Somehow, this time round, it hasn't been the same story.

There have been wage freezes and reductions.

Empty roles have not been filled. Services have been reduced at the edge of our lives.

If you are lucky enough not to need assistance from the state to get on with your life, you might not have noticed austerity that much.

Okay, there do seem to be more people sleeping rough on the streets than there were.

They have sprung out of the doorways of empty shops but by and large you do seem to hear more people complaining about litter left to rot on the streets than

Services that serve people is so yesteryear

human beings left to rot on the streets.

There's Shopmobility and Family Support Centres and various other bits and pieces losing funding but cost cutting is the post modern way of making money. Services that serve people is so yesteryear.

So where is all this austerity?

I wonder if it's partly on page 9. The sad story of Mark Pettifer, a man who was sleeping rough after being his mother's sole carer. He ended up being fished out of the river. No-one is really sure what happened and that's the point - we don't know.

Whatever happened to him - and maybe it could not have been prevented - one thing is for sure he went straight through the social safety net.

And this is what is worrying about austerity... when you pull up the drawbridge and tighten the purse strings and leave those too weak or meek to shout out to fend for themselves, you don't really know what damage you are doing until it's too late.

There's a lot of talk about how great Britain is at the moment. Not yet I would say.

Steve Scoles

ANGELINA FLAPP "SUNCHAIR TRAUMAS TAKE ONE"



NEWS IN BRIEF

Cat poisoned

The RSPCA is investigating after a cat died from anti-freeze poisoning in Wellingborough. The black-and-white feline, aged four, was found by its owner struggling for breath in Langham Road on May 20. He was later put to sleep.

Knife-point theft

Two boys who were sitting in a Northampton park were robbed by a group of four teenagers who fled with a mobile phone and zip-up jacket. The robbery happened on Monday, May 30 between 3.30pm and 5.30pm.

Shisha garden

Plans to open a shisha bar in the garden at a new restaurant in Wellingborough Road, Northampton, have been submitted to the council. It's proposing to take over the former Thift'ee clothes shop building.

Good Samaritan

A police officer is trying to trace a man who helped a woman in a car crash near Thraxton on May 30. The woman crashed into a ditch in Denford and the man gave her his jumper to keep warm. The officer wants to thank him.

BHS closures

Staff at two BHS stores in Northampton are to lose their jobs after a rescue deal to save the retailer fell through. The department store collapsed into liquidation last week. The Abington Street and St James Retail Park stores will close.

School's funky leavers' video

BY NICHOLAS BIEBER
nicholas.bieber@hpnorthants.co.uk

School staff have shown their funky side - and a great sense of humour - in a funny music video to wish this year's school-leavers well.

The eight-minute long clip shows staff at Moulton School and Science College wearing fancy dress and busting moves to Mark Ronson's Uptown Funk and The Harlem Shake.

It was uploaded onto YouTube last Tuesday, and proved a hit in the following 48 hours - racking up nearly 5,000 hits.

As of yesterday, it had reached 7,000 views.

Moulton School and Science College's Year 11 students are currently on study leave, preparing for their GCSE exams.

Last year, Daventry's Parker Academy posted a video to bid farewell to their Year 11 leavers, dancing along to Taylor Swift's Shake It Off.



LETTING THEIR HAIR DOWN: Staff at Moulton School and Science College

Glitter beards world record attempt

Fuzzy-faced men are being called on to take part in a world record attempt for charity - by helping to create the largest number of glitter beards in an hour.

Scores of men have already signed up to get 'beardazzled' in what is believed to be a world record first at 2pm on Saturday, July 2 during the

Northampton Town Festival being held at the Racecourse.

The effort, organised by Northampton-based company DP Marketing Communications, will see a team dress beards in glitter.

The men taking part will be asked to get sponsored to raise money for Alzheimer's Research UK.



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NEWS IN BRIEF

Inventing future



Northampton High School
pupil, Lara Pieckza, has been shortlisted in national invention competition 'Invent the Future'. The 16-year-old is one of six entrants with her idea, a 'Collapsible spacer device for asthmatics'. She's made it to this stage from 140 entries.

Get snapping



A new competition is asking people to enter by sending in a photo – either a new or old one that shows what Northamptonshire or their community means to them.

All the details on how to enter can be found at www.ncf.uk.com

On the beat in 60s Northampton

As Northants Police turns 50, Nick Bieber writes about an ex-cop who reflects on policing in 1966

When 95-year-old Bill Kendrick took up a trial run at Northants Police as a Special Constable, he was adamant that's all it would be.

But for the next 15 years, the Hardingstone resident was to pound the streets of Northampton on the beat – meeting George Best and the Queen along the way.

And now, five decades later, Bill is taking a look back on his voluntary career as Northants Police celebrates 50 years as a single force.

It was in 1958 when Bill met the then-chief inspector of Northampton Borough Police - which would later merge with Northants County Constabulary to become one force.

After taking up the chief's offer to join the specials, Bill was handed the responsibilities of traffic duty at football games and being a mayoral escort.

Based at Campbell Square police station, Bill had to balance his role with his day job - working as a produc-

tion manager at J Beam Aerials.

He remembers: "I knew I had over 100 people to look after at J Beam, but being a Special was something else to do. I used to like football and joining the Specials you could get in there for free, by doing traffic duty I could also meet the public, which was very interesting."

"Ten minutes before the Cobblers match started, you would do your traffic duty, then you would go into the football ground and you would be free until 10 minutes before the end, when you went back on traffic duty. I saw Georgie Best playing – he scored six goals."

Bill, who also patrolled in the town on Saturday nights and helped out at big events such as carnivals, says one of the biggest challenges was being in charge of directing traffic at busy junctions; a task that was completed with a smart uniform and whistle, rather than in any high visibility clothing.



NOSTALGIC COP: Bill Kendrick poses with medal for his 'faithful service to special constabulary'

He particularly remembers directing five-way traffic at the Regent Square junction in Northampton, which would happen if a special 'emergency' exercise was taking place in the town and the traffic lights went down.

But before he gave up his role in 1973, he remembers 1966, when Northants Police

became a single force, as police staff and officers adjusted to the change in working.

He recalled: "In 1966, there was some tension between Mereway Police and Campbell Square Police, I got the impression they weren't happy with each other.

Campbell Square was the original police station and Mereway was the new police station that was responsible for county policing, but Campbell Square covered the town.

"There was always a little animosity between the two, but that was many moons ago now."

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Top 5

Worst Cobblers shirts from the 1990s

In the week Northampton Town revealed their new away shirt, here are some past fashion faux pas

1

Home 1989/90: The Cobblers entered the decade in this abomination – what's going with that sponsor?



2

Third 1993/94: A horrible colour clash, it was for the best Town didn't take to the pitch too often in this.



3

Away 1997/98: Surely they could have come up with a shirt more fitting of the club's 100th birthday?



4

Home 1998/99: An experiment that will hopefully never be repeated. Not the only shocker ProStar produced.



5

Away 1999/2000: Northampton's lurid last away shirt of the 20th century stands out for all the wrong reasons.



Struggling Oliver Adams is saved

BY NICHOLAS BIEBER
nicholas.bieber@hpnorthants.co.uk

Bakery Oliver Adams has been saved from collapse after a crunch meeting - despite already closing nearly a dozen stores.

The Northampton firm, established in the town in 1969, has been forced to restructure in recent weeks after facing trading difficulties, leading to 11 stores shutting and 59 redundancies.

And just a fortnight ago, insolvency practitioners Business Recovery and

Insolvency Limited announced it had been drafted in to help the bakery to try to pay a list of 164 outstanding creditors.

Last Wednesday, a meeting was held with those creditors - of which 99 per cent agreed to a Company Voluntary Agreement (CVA), meaning Oliver Adams will avoid going into administration or liquidation.

This also means that as well as being able to continue trading, around 200 staff at

the company will keep their jobs - despite 59 roles having already been cut.

Joint supervisor Peter Windatt from Business Recovery and Insolvency, said: "I am very pleased creditors have voted in favour of the CVA, the hard work starts now for the company to meet its obligations pursuant to the CVA."

"I'm confident the company will continue to thrive for many more years to come."

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Broken Or Damaged Windows? Faulty Locks, Handles, Hinges?

MY PERSONAL PLAYLIST

Julie Allen



Julie Allen, communications officer at Uni Northampton

Jessie Ware
Tough Love (Cyril Hahn mix)
It's a great summer tune and was one of my favourites from last year

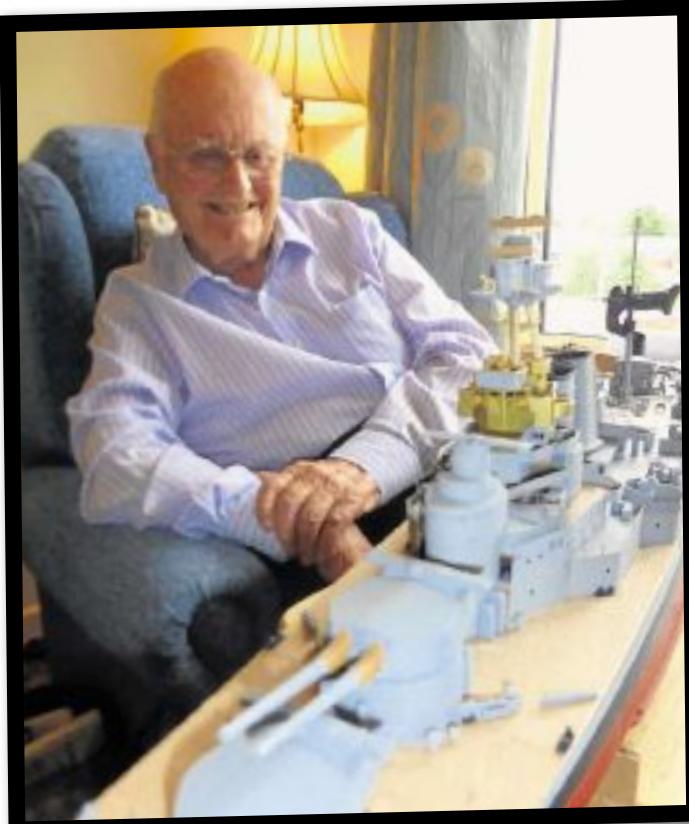
The Pogues
Fairytales of New York
This is always the first Christmas song I play on December 1

Kylie Minogue
I Should Be So Lucky
This was the first album I ever brought and played it to death on my little green ghetto blaster

Las Ketchup
The Ketchup Song
Reminds me of a holiday to Gran Canaria with my best friend in 2002

Craig David
When the Baseline Drops
Great song to play in the car with the roof down

Modeller Jack back in the Hood



Ship shaper

In the Imperial Court Retirement Village, Rushden 93 year old Jack Howard is completing a four foot model of the Second World War battleship H.M.S. Hood. When Jack was 16-years-old he started to make an eight foot working model of the ship with a steam boiler but he was "called up" to go into the R.A.F. so the model was put on hold. He returned from the war and completed the model in a cupboard at the top of the stairs in his home in Wembley because space was tight when children started to come into his life. He gave the model to the model club he belonged to and to raise funds they sold it to an American only to have the cheque bounce but by this time the ship was on the other side of the Atlantic. The club later heard that just as the original ship had blown up, the safety valve on Jack's ship must have stuck while the American was sailing it and the whole model ship blew up! As he now lives in an apartment there is not the facility for him to have his own workshop but this hasn't stopped him as you can see by the photos of this 4-foot ship.

He says "I've been making things from a young child and all this model and ceramic making keeps the old grey matter ticking over".

There are more pictures of Jack's work on our website.

The Gardener's Solution for Back Pain and Sciatica

Advertisement feature

IF YOU suffer from low back pain and sciatica, you are one of over 20 million adults in the UK with this often crippling spinal condition.

Things are even worse for you if you are a regular gardener and not just the average person. Because the pain caused by these debilitating conditions can either lay you up, and all you can do is watch your garden take over... or you can still chance taking back control, but the condition will rear its ugly head at every possible inconvenient opportunity.

Back Pain and Sciatica Can:

- ✓ Cause pain in the hip, groin, buttock, hamstring, knee, calf, ankle and foot
- ✓ Cramps of the buttock, hamstring, calf and foot
- ✓ Predispose you to more frequent pulled muscles and strains
- ✓ Weakness and muscle wasting if allowed to persist
- ✓ Crawling or tingling sensations anywhere between your waist and your toes
- ✓ Numbness anywhere between your waist and your toes

Left untreated, the intense pain can rapidly wear you down and drain the joy out of life.

That is, until now...

Recent advances in the treatment of sciatica and lower back pain have led to the development and huge success of Non-Surgical Re-Constructive Spinal Care.

The excellent results of this treatment have been published in major medical journals. With success rates as high as 90% some back surgeons recommending their patients try this treatment first before having back surgery.

In Bedfordshire, you can try Non-Surgical Re-constructive Spinal Care at the Atlas Wellness Centre – the office of low back pain and sciatica relief expert Peter Olsson.

Peter and his team of fully trained spinal care specialists have helped over 4,026 patients find relief from their agonising back pain and sciatica.

According to Peter, "We use a combination of ultra-advanced technology, not found elsewhere in Bedfordshire, for precisely diagnosing the cause of your low back pain and sciatica; and a unique programme for reconstructing the damaged area causing the pain; this means superior long-term results for most people."

Because the treatment is non-surgical, safe and easy, most patients report an almost immediate relief from their pain.

Patient Jeff P. from Cambridge says, "My back pain was unbearable but the

worst thing was the searing burning pain I felt in my buttock and leg.

I couldn't work or do anything useful and the drugs my GP prescribed hardly did anything.

My wife insisted I respond to one of these ads, I thought it would be a total waste of time, but I'm so glad she kept on at me.

Thank god I called your number, I'm 95% better in just a couple of weeks."

Your invitation for a comprehensive consultation and examination to pinpoint the cause of your low back pain and sciatica...

Northampton Herald and Post has teamed up with the spine therapy specialists at Atlas Wellness Centre, to help gardeners find relief from their persistent back and sciatic pain.

All you have to do is receive a thorough diagnostic examination with the most advanced technology in the world and a comprehensive easy to understand report on your state of health is call 01234 340317.

Mention this article (CODE: NHP49SCGID1) and Atlas will happily reduce their usual consultation fee of £245 to just £49. But hurry, due to obvious reasons – this is a time limited offer – with only 100 reader consultations available at this exclusively discounted rate.

My advice, don't suffer a moment longer...

Find out if Non-Surgical Re-Constructive Spinal Care can help you, book a consultation with Peter and his team now by calling 01234 340317, they are waiting to take your call today.

They actually treat the cause of your health problem, not just your symptoms.

That's why hundreds of grateful gardeners tell them "You gave me back my garden!"

Over the years, they've treated thousands of patients with back problems and sciatica. The vast majority of them have enjoyed superior, lasting relief. In fact, many who've suffered and have tried other remedies have told them they gave them back their lives!

Call them now and get a full and thorough examination to pinpoint the cause of your problem for just £49, the normal cost of such an exam is £245 so you will save £196!

Don't suffer from the pain and immobility any longer. Discover the natural treatment that can eliminate the cause of your problem and give you the safe, lasting relief you deserve.

Call them now on 01234 340317 and cut out or tear off this valuable article now and take it to your appointment. You'll be entitled to a



NEWS IN BRIEF

Battlebus visit



A Brexit-campaigning market trader and a pro-EU MP cast their differences aside on Monday when Labour's 'In for Britain' battlebus rolled into Northampton.

Leicester West MP Liz Kendall, vying for Britain to remain in the EU, helped Fitzy on his fruit and veg stall.

Royal birthday

A Royal-themed fun day will be held at Daventry Country Park on Sunday.

The Big Royal Lunch takes place at the park off Northern Way from 11am to 2pm on June 12, to celebrate the Queen's official 90th birthday.

Fire checks

Carers looking after elderly people, or those with disabilities, are encouraged to book a free Home Fire Safety Check.

Home Fire Safety go to on www.northantsfire.org.uk. Urgent referrals tel:01604 797000.

Open to public

A free tour of Hazelrigg House, Northampton Castle site and St. Peter's will be on the following days:

June 12, at 1.30pm; June 17, at 10am (opening by Lord Hazelrigg will be at 11am) and Friday, June 24, at 1pm

Serious assault

A 20-year-old man was seriously assaulted in the area of St Margarets Avenue, Rushden in the early hours of Tuesday. The incident happened at about 3.45am. Anyone with information should call police on 101.

Assault in park

A woman believes she was sexually assaulted in Dallington Park, Northampton, on Friday, June 3, between 5am and 5pm. The offender was mixed race, 5ft 7in with a trimmed beard, black hair and dark jeans.

Missing man's mystery death

BY LAWRENCE JOHN
lawrencejohn@hpnorthants.co.uk

Mystery still surrounds the death of a 55-year-old man from Northampton after remains were found in the River Nene opposite the Avon Factory in town last year.

A resumed inquest held on Wednesday, at the Large Hall, Cripps Post Graduate Medical Centre, at Northampton General Hospital, delivered an open verdict when it came to the cause of Mark Pettifer's death.

The coroner's court heard from pathologist Dr Frances Hollingbury that his death could be have been caused by drowning but the state of decomposition might have given artificial results. Dr Hollingbury was unable to categorically state his death had been caused by drowning and felt the only cause she could give was unascertained.

In order to confirm this was Mr Pettifer's body, two toothbrushes belonging to the deceased were sent to Cellmark Forensic Services in Oxford.

It was confirmed the DNA profile was a match and the chances of it not being a match for Mark



MYSTERY: Mark Pettifer

Pettifer were 1 in 1 billion.

Mark Pettifer had gone missing on June 25, 2015, when he was last seen in the Semilong area of the town. He was reported missing to police, and was sleeping rough.

His body was discovered by James Stanley on November 18, 2015, when he was clearing trees and shrubs on Nunn Mills Road opposite the Avon Factory.

He spotted what he thought was a human body in the weeds immediately called the police.

Mark's second ex-wife Alison Williams explained Mark had been born at the Barratt Maternity Home in Northampton on September 21, 1960. She was unaware of

much about his early life as Mark who she described as 'an introvert' and a 'person with low self esteem', never talked about his past.

Alison and Mark met in October 2006 and moved into together in a house in Corby in 2007.

They often had to move homes which made it very stressful and by 2011 she went to live in Whitney in Oxfordshire while Mark went look after his elderly mother in Northampton.

Mark became the only full time carer for his mother, Dorothy, before she was moved into a nursing home.

They did get back together in 2013 when they both lived in Whitney but this did not last and Mark went back to Northampton.

She discovered he was sleeping rough in a sleeping bag in a hedge outside the Hope Centre in Northampton.

She did not think he would have killed himself as he was his mother's full time carer and loved her so much.

Senior coroner for Northamptonshire, Anne Pember said: "I am not able to say how Mark died and the only verdict I can record is an open verdict."

Aiming to turn off domestic abuse

Northamptonshire Police have launched their county-wide domestic abuse campaign: Domestic abuse is control... Turn it off.

The campaign aims to highlight types of controlling behaviours that are patterns of domestic abuse.

It targets both men and women, who can be victims and offenders.

It stresses the element of control, both in terms of the perpetrator controlling the victim and the victim being controlled, urging both victim or perpetrator to 'turn it off'.

Figures show 13 per cent of all crime for the past year in the county was domestic abuse related. Between January 2015 and December

2015, of the 48,167 crimes recorded, 6,308 of them were related to domestic abuse.

One in four reports of domestic abuse involved alcohol, 36.4 per cent of assaults and 34.4 per cent of all rapes were domestic abuse related. Superintendent Steve Lingley, Head of Safeguarding, said:

"Domestic abuse is control. It's about one person exerting power and control over another. We hope this campaign will help raise awareness and encourage victims of domestic abuse to come forward, but also highlight to offenders their controlling behaviours and encourage them to 'turn it off'."

Three in four of these victims were women, with one in four victims of domestic abuse being men.

While a significant proportion of the offenders in

Power plant decision pulled at last minute

Northampton Borough Council withdrew an option to lease land to the developer of a power plant planned for Northampton in a last-minute twist yesterday (Wednesday).

Just moments before the land agreement with Roltton Kilbride was due to be considered at a cabinet

meeting last night, the Tory-led authority withdrew the matter from the agenda, because the developer had 'not carried out sufficient public consultation'.

Had the two-year option deal gone ahead, it would have given Roltton Kilbride the opportunity to rent

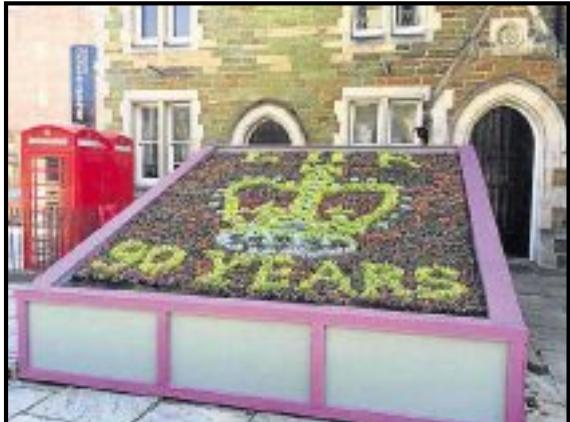
five acres of land at the Westbridge depot in St James to build the plant - which is currently home to the council's waste disposal depot.

The developer now needs to show they have carried out a 'sufficient level of consultation' until the deal can be discussed.

Moulton Garden Centre Plants a Crown in Town

Staff and Students from the garden centre at Moulton College have been busy planning, growing and planting a spectacular carpet bedding flower display for the Queen's 90th Birthday in Northampton Town Centre.

The 9m² Giant display has been planted into a specially designed wooden planter that is on an angle to show off the display. The bedding plants are made of a variety of low growing dense plants including over 3,000 Alternanthera as well as hundreds of echeveria, and Sempervivum. As the plants grow and combine together the colours will deepen and enrich the image to provide a long lasting and vibrant display.



All of the plants have been planted with the aid of computer generated template that allows for perfect matching of colours and varieties to form the shape of a majestic crown and the letters to indicate Her Majesties 90 years on the Throne.

Pop down to the Northampton Guildhall at the top of Guildhall Road where the Crown will be on display from this week.

www.Garden.centre.co.uk

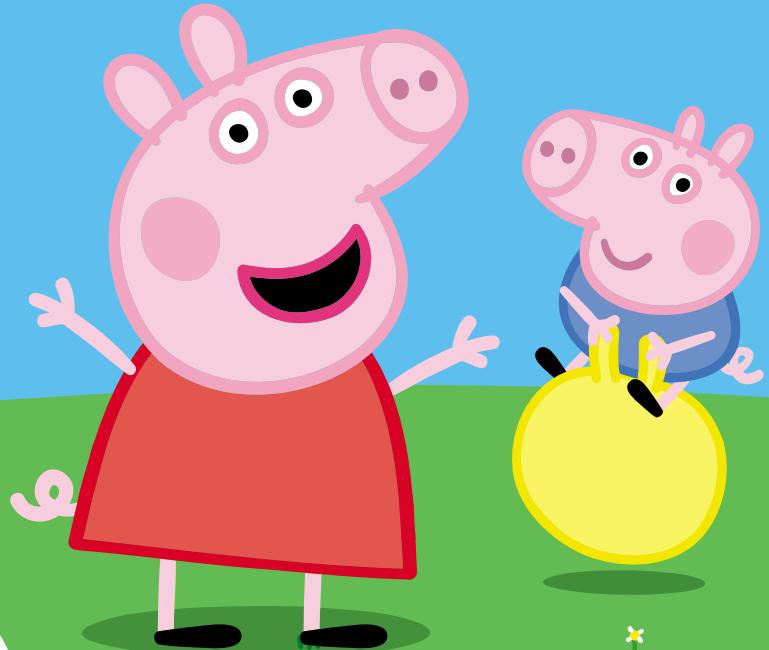
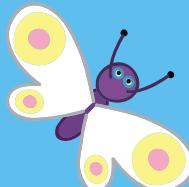


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Vending machine gives out England kits

A giant Carlsberg vending machine gave away dozens of free 1966 England shirts in Northampton yesterday. Over 100 football fans queued (inset) outside the Hollow store in Kingsthorpe Hollow to swap their shirts with the famous strip. Town-based Carlsberg had hoped the event would run from 4pm until 7pm, but all the shirts were snapped up in just half an hour.



Stepfather twice left girl pregnant

BY NICHOLAS BIEBER
nicholas.bieber@hpnorthants.co.uk

A former sports coach who twice made his young stepdaughter pregnant began serving a 24 year jail sentence last Friday.

The 51-year-old man dominated and controlled the girl from when she was 12 until she was 19, Luton Crown Court heard.

Last Friday, before the Corby man was sentenced, a heart-breaking statement made by the victim was read to the court.

In it she said: "I have not had a childhood. I did not go to parties or play with friends."

"That vile monster made me have his children, had full control of everything I did - who I spoke to, where I was going, what I was wearing."

"I am so confused. I adore my children but cannot separate them from the nightmare I am trying to escape from. They tie me to the past."

She also revealed she had felt suicidal from the age of 12.

Council weed out plant



LEAF IT OUT: Is this plant cannabis, or not?

A mystery weed spotted by a passer-by in a Northampton park has been removed by the council after they spotted the story on the H&P website.

The newspaper reported on Monday that a woman, who wishes to be unnamed, found three unusual look-

ing plants in a flower bed at Abington Park on Sunday.

She suspected the plants to be cannabis, but when the borough council got its contractors to remove them, they 'checked on websites' and decided the plants 'don't appear to be cannabis'.

Beer festival's back

Wappenham villagers will hold the third Beer and Music Festival on Saturday June 25.

It's at the village hall, from noon with real ales, cider and a table of gins on offer, plus wine and soft drinks, a barbecue and live music.

Advance tickets

cost £7, which is for 3 pints. Entry on the day is free, but buying tickets before will help organisers decide on catering. Buy from Michael or Paul on 01327 860373 or Jim on 860915. Or email michael-payne@talktalk.net or jimwilson11@hotmail.com.



CHEERS: Punters enjoy a pint at last year's do

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MUST HAVE

Tahini



Northamptonshire author Derrick Thompson must have tahini.

He said: "Something I must have for breakfast at least four times each week is two slices of wholemeal toast spread with margarine, tahini, a smidgeon of marmite with a sliced banana on top, and a cup of tea. Having turned vegetarian in 1981, I was introduced to some unusual dishes and concoctions by other veggies and this breakfast meal has stuck with me ever since."

Herald
& Post
FOLLOW ME



@Vicki1Louise

Welcome to our regular feature where we invite people to tell us who we should follow on Twitter and why. Tweet us @NorthamptonUK and you will see the best ones here.

Vicki-Louise Sherwin tweeted: "Because, I'm a brittle asthmatic encouraging other sufferers to keep fighting :) youtu.be/TtXU3yjP-0s #fightsong #believe"

To catch up with all the latest news and sports in Northants, you can visit our website at www.northampton-news-hp.co.uk. You can also follow us on Twitter at @NorthamptonUK or on Facebook at NorthantsHeraldPost.

BLOGGER OF THE WEEK

Call to stay in the EU

Cllr Jane Birch

This week's Blogger of the Week is Cllr Jane Birch, Deputy Leader of the Labour Group on Northampton Borough Council



The United Kingdom must stay inside the European Union.

As a Labour councillor I believe it is in the best interests of Northampton that we remain.

Businesses in Northampton do much business with Europe and our residents benefit in numerous ways.

Our young people need to be free to take up opportunities where they can. They have the right to study, do work experience, work, travel and reside anywhere in the EU. Some EU universities even offer free places to UK young people. Britain has won a good deal inside Europe already.

People are worried about our borders and migration. Coming out of Europe will make it difficult for us to defend our borders. At present France stops people coming into Britain. If we come out, the refugee camp in Calais called The Jungle, will be in Dover. Our security depends on cooperation with the rest of Europe.

The European Union is not perfect by any means but we are more prosperous and live in a more peaceful world because of it.

Northampton benefits hugely from EU membership and that's why I'm voting to REMAIN.

Your views

Firefighters right to leave resident locked out house

Last week the Northants Herald & Post reported that firefighters were called to a resident who had been locked outside of their house in Northampton.

The resident claimed they had left the cooking on inside which prompted a fire crew to attend the incident. But when they turned up, they found the person's claim was false.

Instead, they left the resident locked out of the house and told them to call a locksmith.

We asked our readers on Facebook whether they thought the firefighters made the right decision:

TRACY TAYLOR: The firefighters were 100% in the right. The inconsiderate homeowner should have phoned a locksmith NOT the fire



service. That crew could have been delayed to a call to save a life due to this individual's selfish act!

SJ HOBSEY: Good they should have been charged with false info and time wasting, someone else at that time could have needed the crew etc!! The fire crew were 100% right to do what they did!! Good job fire crew!!!

JENNY HARRIS: The fire crew were 100% right for doing this. Time wasters like this should be billed.

SUZE BARTON: Cool so they had to do what everyone else has to.

Good, maybe charge them for wasting the EMERGENCY service time as well!!!

KIRSTY CONSTABLE: Good! Someone could have died whilst they were messing around.

KATY GIBSON: Excellent decision by the fire crew. They should invoice the time waster.

ALASTAIR LEITH: I would have charged him for the call out too!

PAM CRANE: They should have stuck their hose through the letter box and turned it on

www.northampton-news-hp.co.uk

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Lunchtime Life

Everyday life's little curiosities snapped this week. Send yours to news@hpnorthants.co.uk



Finedon: A Commonwealth war grave in the county



Ringstead Lock: Sisters Elaine Rogers (seated) and Susan Ware



Denford: Cattle drinking from the River Nene

Send your letters to
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22 Mill Street, Bedford

MK40 3HD

or email letters@HPnorthants.co.uk

Lifesaving milestone



BY NICHOLAS BIEBER
nicholas.bieber@hpnorthants.co.uk

The air ambulance service which covers Northamptonshire this week completed its 25,000th mission.

Since its first flight in 2003, the service has touched the lives of thousands of families across the region, helping to fly sick or severely injured people by helicopter to hospital.

The Warwickshire & Northamptonshire Air Ambulance helicopter is based at Coventry Airport and flies an average of three missions a day.

Together with its sister service, the Derbyshire, Leicestershire & Rutland air

ambulance - the charity took on its 25,000th mission this week.

Director of operations Richard Clayton said: "We are delighted to have come so far since our first mission and to have reached this significant milestone. We couldn't have done it without our incredible supporters who continue to keep us flying today."

Former patients who owe their lives to the air ambulance are now urging people to donate to the charity with a new appeal.

It's backed by Northants couple Jess and Keith Wheatley, from Gretton, whose lives were saved by the charity after a serious crash involving their car and a lorry in 2013.

AIR AMBULANCE MISSION REPORT



Week ending June 5

| | |
|-----------|---|
| Monday | Sport/Leisure - 3xOther RTC 2xEquestrian Medical - Collapse Cardiac Arrest |
| Tuesday | Medical - Collapse 4xRTC |
| Wednesday | Cardiac Arrest |
| Thursday | Cardiac Arrest 4xRTC Medical - Collapse |
| Friday | Medical - Collapse 3xCardiac Arrest Medical - Other Industrial |
| Saturday | Cardiac Arrest 3xRTC Fall |
| Sunday | Equestrian 3xRTC 2xFall 2xCardiac Arrest |

To donate to Warwickshire and Northamptonshire Air Ambulance visit theairambulanceservice.org.uk/donate



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H&P**BREAKING
NEWS****on northampton-news-hp.co.uk**

Transport plan is hitting the road

BY LAWRENCE JOHN

lawrencejohn@hpnortherns.co.uk

Plans are taking shape to transform public and community transport across the county and it has been backed by £750,000 from central government.

The University of Northampton and Northamptonshire County Council are working together on a new transport scheme.

The two institutions, along with partners, will map out how people travel around the county – and then come up with solutions to make transport provision better co-ordinated and integrated, and help the public pound go further.

A report on the progress of

the Total Transport initiative will be heard by the county council's cabinet committee next week.

In addition to local public bus services, the project will also look at improving community transport for people including hospital patients, the elderly and people with disabilities.

The pilot project will see the partners draw up a business plan which will then be presented to the council's cabinet in the autumn, for approval.

It's anticipated a social enterprise could be created to co-ordinate the scheme.

This would mean any profits are ploughed back into local communities.

The university is well-

placed to help improve transport in the area as it runs its own bus service, Uno Buses which serve two million passengers per year.

Terry Neville, chief operating officer of the University of Northampton, said: "The Total Transport project gives us a prime opportunity to make transport provision across the county more joined up, for the benefit of residents, the environment and the public purse.

"With 14,000 students, more than 2,000 staff and our own bus service, the university has the potential to effect positive change in the way we travel around the county, and we're delighted to be adding our expertise to the project."

The case of... crash landing the Mexican Spitfire

**Lawrence John**

To find more blogs and video diaries from Northants Herald & Post journalist Lawrence John visit our website.
[@LawrenceJohnHP](#)

seeing a Jeep Cherokee which normally has the face of Geronimo on the spare wheel cover. A Native American people hunted and killed but no worries you'll be immortalised in an off road 4x4.

You have to know how you want to be remembered and no matter who you are it doesn't really work out if you get it wrong and your reputation takes a hefty blow.

I wonder how many of you remember the actress, Lupe Velez, nicknamed the Mexican Spitfire. The legend

tells us Lupe had planned a beautiful suicide but the drugs she took made her unwell. In her dazed state she went to the bathroom to be sick.

She slipped on the tiled floor and fell head first into the toilet where she drowned. You might not have known Lupe Velez before but you will not forget her now.

Her suicide is a by word for her tragic demise and along with Elvis one of the two most famous people to have died in or on the toilet.

It is as Frank Sinatra said: 'That's life (that's life) that's what people say. You're riding high in April, shot down in May. But I know I'm gonna change that tune, when I'm back on top, back on top in June'...

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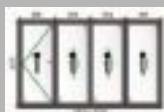
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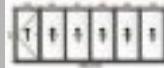
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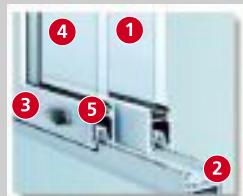
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Fans track the Flying Scotsman's journey

BY NICHOLAS BIEBER

nicholas.bieber@hpnorthants.co.uk

Hundreds of people took over a tiny Northants village last weekend to witness the Flying Scotsman make its historic journey across the longest masonry viaduct in Britain. Large crowds gathered on low and high points in

Harrington as the famous train - the first steam locomotive in the world to reach speeds of 100mph - chugged across the village's viaduct at 10.30am.

Travelling from London to York, following its decade-long £4.2 million restoration, the 60103 engine crossed into the county from Bedfordshire and

passed through Wellingborough train station.

It then stopped at Kettering station to pick up passengers - where it was delayed as it had to refill with water - before steaming on through Corby station and finally - 30 minutes late - chugging across the viaduct's 82 arches.

Among the amazed 600



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trainspotters who had packed out the village - many of whom stood in fields, on road sides and on hills with their cameras at the ready - was Harringworth village resident Roy Kedge.

The 67-year-old, who is a secretary at Harringworth Appeals Fund which raises money for services in the

village, organised the parking and catering for the event, and was left overwhelmed by the entire day.

Speaking about the turnout, he said: "We got far more people than we thought.

"We had over 200 cars in this field alone, and about 600 people in total - which is

three times more than the population of the village!"

Describing the moment he saw the Flying Scotsman cross the viaduct, he said: "We could see the whole train, with all its carriages, coming across the bridge - it was absolutely magnificent.

"I'll never forget it - I've never seen it before and I guess I'll never see it again."

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Foodie festival at Towcester

Thousands of people are expected to flock to Towcester Racecourse this weekend for the Towcester Food Festival.

Among the highlights of the weekend's event are a demonstration by a Michelin star chef, a street food market with award winning sea food, a free family circus and over 100 food and drink stalls. Masterchef judge and food critic William Sitwell will open the festival.

It's open from 10am to 6pm on Saturday and 10am to 5pm on Sunday.

Adult tickets £6 in advance, or £8 on the day. Family tickets £15 in advance. Child ticket is £3. Tickets from www.towcester-foodfestival.co.uk



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Score with Euro's

To celebrate the start of UEFA Euro 2016 and show support for our Home Nations, Mick George Ltd is running a competition everyone can enter.

Guess what you think the final score will be for each of the England, Wales, Northern Ireland and Republic of Ireland matches.

To enter Visit the EURO 2016 competition page on the Mick George website – www.mickgeorge.co.uk/euro-scores; Enter this code on the entry form for each match: EUROCN; Select a match from the drop down list and guess the correct score.



(Please note you'll need to submit a separate form for each game.)

4. Enter your details - please make sure you include your telephone number so they can contact you

RNLI fundraisers walk talk

The county's lifeboat volunteer fund-raisers have been busy.

And at the centre of it all was the RNLI Northampton Welly Walk around Pitsford Water, supported by Anglian Water and Brixworth Country Park.

Money is still coming in but

with funding from Nationwide Building Society they have made more than £3,000.

They also had lots of support from Barclaycard, bottles of water from Waitrose and Morrison's and a rescue boat on the day provided by Sailability.

Old favourite gets a bold new makeover



Trilogy's latest addition to its portfolio has been given a big freshen up

If you are from Northampton you have probably celebrated someone's birthday at Berzerk at some point – maybe even your own.

But it is probably a little while since you saw it looking this good: fresh from a makeover and with new areas and equipment installed.

Trilogy is now running the Moulton Park attraction and has carried out a top to bottom freshen up of the facilities including deep cleaning and repainting.

The toddler area now has a chill out zone and an arts and crafts area and you can now see your children play from the comfort of the Coffee Box Café.

Admission for a child is around a fiver a head, but less for younger children and on weekdays.

For full details of what is available, booking and prices check out the Trilogy website:

www.trilogyleisure.co.uk/about/berzerk





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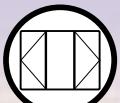
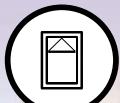
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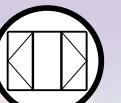
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'A stranger could help save my life'

BY NICHOLAS BIEBER

nicholas.bieber@hpnorthants.co.uk

A young teacher who is battling leukaemia and a rare bone marrow disease has been told her best hope of recovery lies in the hands of a stranger.

Leanne 'Tilly' Tillbrook, a 25-year-old special needs teacher at the Wrenn Academy in Wellingborough, was diagnosed with bone marrow failure at 17 when studying for her A-levels at Wollaston School.

The Rushden woman has gone through a variety of treatments including stem cell therapy and courses of anti-rejection drugs ever since, but has now been told that her best hope of a long-term cure is through a transplant.

But with sister Jodie not being a match, she is reliant on a stranger through the Anthony Nolan donor register.

Leanne said: "My doctors have told me there are risks of my cancer coming back and stronger so the transplant really is my best hope. At the

TILLY'S PLEA:
Leanne Tillbrook
is urging people to
join the Anthony
Nolan register



moment there isn't a match for me anywhere, so it feels like we are clinging onto straws and just desperately hoping to find a match.

"I think it's an incredible thing that there is a register of people out there who have signed up to donate their stem cells to a stranger but we need more people to sign up.

"There are a lot of myths and horror stories out there about donating stem cells which just simply aren't true.

"It's a lot simpler than people think, it's just like an extended blood donation. It's something so small for the donor but it has a massive impact for people like me and their families. I hope my story gives people the final push to go on the Anthony Nolan website, sign up and maybe one day save a life."

If you are aged 16-30 and in good health sign up to the Anthony Nolan register at www.anthonynolan.org.

School's dramatic trip



Parents of pupils at a Northants primary school followed their children's dramatic journey home from London on social media, after coaches got caught up by a storm and gridlock on the M1.

Three coaches braved it in the queue on Tuesday afternoon as Roade Primary School headed back from a trip to the Tower of London, but the fourth bus diverted onto the A5 as heavy rain and lightning hit.

By 5.50pm, the chancing coach was still stuck in Bedfordshire, wading through a dramatic flash flood - as a two-hour trip home turned into a four-hour adventure that would be told in a series of Tweets by headteacher Mark Currell.

All 200 pupils, from reception to year six, and their teachers left the city at 2.30pm, and all was running smoothly until they left London Gateway services an hour later where they stopped for a break.

While a storm started to pass over the M1, traffic started to build and by junction 9 - the weather, coupled with an incident - brought all four coaches to a standstill.

Instead, the fourth coach then decided to chance it on the A5 - while the others inched slowly forwards.

Shortly before 6pm, nearly four hours later, the three coaches which stayed on the M1 had finally arrived back at school, but the diverting coach was nowhere to be seen.

It turned out the coach was still in Bedfordshire, as it had been caught up in a flash flood which left Dunstable submerged in water.

Finally, after safely making it through the water, the coach arrived home at 6.45pm.

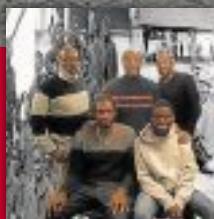
Headteacher Mark signed off his updates on Twitter with: "It has been an adventure!"

YOUR NORTHANTS

What's On

Thursday, June 9, 2016

**It's
carnival
time!**

See insideSee this week's
film listings . . .Strictly stars to
keep dancingThe Caribbean
heads to war

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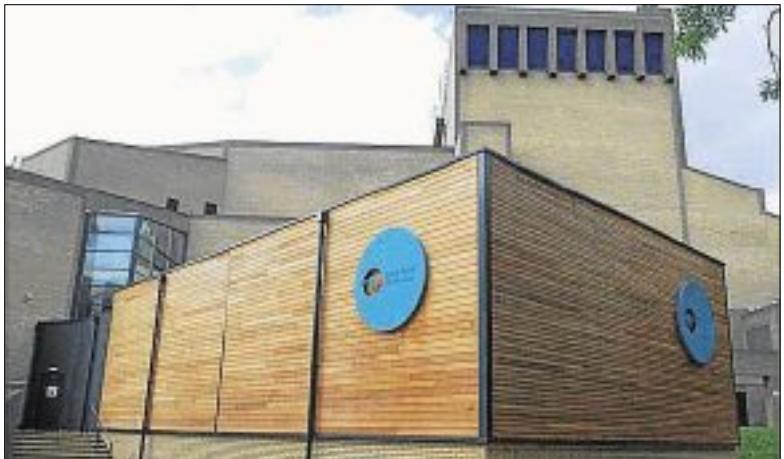
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WHAT'S ON ROUND-UP



Birthday celebrations starts with the EFFIES

BY LAWRENCE JOHN

lawrence.john@hpnorthants.co.uk

The Errol Flynn Filmhouse celebrates its third birthday this month and to mark the occasion the cinema is inviting people to vote for its very own movie awards.

And anyone taking part in the online vote for the EFFIES will have the chance to win a year's free membership at the filmhouse.

The cinema's birthday will also be marked by a special sing-a-long screening of the classic musical western

Calamity Jane starring Doris Day, on Sunday, June 19 at 2pm.

Over the next few weeks customers can vote for their favourite films shown at the Errol Flynn Filmhouse over the last 12 months in categories including Best Live Event, Best Documentary, Best Classic Film, Best Film not in the English Language and an open category of Favourite Film of the Year.

To see the full list of categories, nominations and to vote, go to www.errolflynn-film.com.



County's arts cinema listings this week

BY NICHOLAS BIEBER

nicholas.bieber@hpnorthants.co.uk

Here are the listings for Northamptonshire arts cinemas this week:

Errol Flynn Filmhouse

- Mapplethorpe: Look At The Pictures Today
- Love & Friendship Today
- The Man Who Knew Infinity (*pictured*) Growing up poor in Madras, India, Srinivasa Ramanujan Iyengar earns admittance to Cambridge University during WWI, where he becomes a pioneer in mathematical theories with the guidance of his professor, G.H. Hardy.

Saturday and Wednesday

- Florence Foster Jenkins Saturday
- Solaris

Sunday

- Everybody Wants Some!! Sunday and Wednesday
- Green Room Monday and Tuesday
- Departure Wednesday

To book tickets call the box office on 01604 624811.

Lings Forum

- Sing Street Today
- Miles Ahead Tomorrow-Sunday, Tuesday
- Robinson Crusoe Tomorrow and Saturday
- The Power in our Hands Monday
- I Saw the Light Monday-Wednesday

To book tickets call 01604 837300.

WHAT'S ON ROUND-UP

Dancing cheek to cheek on the Deco stage

Former Strictly Come Dancing champion Camilla Dallerup and Ian Waite, a one-time runner-up in the popular BBC show, are stopping off at Northampton's Deco Theatre during their UK tour, later this year.

The two dancers, who have been performing professionally together since 2004, will perform a variety of routines, supported by professional singer Paul Amer and guests, and share stories of their time on Strictly when they take to The Deco Stage on Friday, October 21.

Camilla - who is Danish by birth and was a junior national champion at 12 years old -

was Strictly champion with actor Tom Chambers in 2008, after which she decided to bow out of the programme on a high.

Ian was runner-up in the first series in 2004 with Sydney Olympic gold medal winning athlete Denise Lewis and again with TV and radio presenter Zoe Ball the following year.

Tickets for An Evening with Ian Waite and Camilla Dallerup are already on sale and can be bought online, at www.thedeco.co.uk, by calling the box office on 01604 491005, or by visiting The Deco between 10am and 4pm on Saturday afternoons.



A splash of colour as carnival goes for gold

BY LAWRENCE JOHN

lawrence.john@hpnortherns.co.uk

The excitement of the Olympic Games will be in Northampton this Saturday.

This year the 12th Northampton Carnival has a theme of 'five continents, one carnival' - representing the five Olympic rings.

The parade will start at the Racecourse at 2pm before going along Kettering Road, Abington Street, Derngate, St Giles Street, York Road, Wellingborough Road, Roseholme Road, Roe Road, Abington Avenue, Abington Grove and back to the

Racecourse. Here, there will be stage performances including solo singers and dance acts - headlined by reggae act the Mystic Crew - a funfair, and dozens of stalls selling food, crafts and clothing - all aiming to keep the fun going.

Other attractions include Caribbean food, cultural arts and crafts, jewellery, promotional stalls for charities, sweets and treats and a full running bar.

Find out what's on
The best things to do in your spare time can be found at www.northampton-news-hp.co.uk

As the organisers of the carnival state on their website: "Each year the organisation has strived to fulfil its aims and meet the challenges of putting on this huge community event involving as many local schools, organisations, charities and small businesses as possible."

You can find out more information by visiting the new and improved Northampton Carnival website at www.northamptoncarnival.co.uk

War effort of Caribbean Soldiers saluted

Caribbean Soldiers is a new stage production written by Northampton playwright Weekes Baptiste.

It tells the story of the contribution made by the young men (and women) from the Caribbean during the Great War, 1914-1918.

Although the work they carried out was very manual, some would say demeaning, it did however make a huge and significant contribution to winning the war.

The play also looks at the way young volunteers, such as nurse Mary Mathews, was

treated by her superiors due to her class and privileged background..

'Even at war, the class system has to defend itself'.

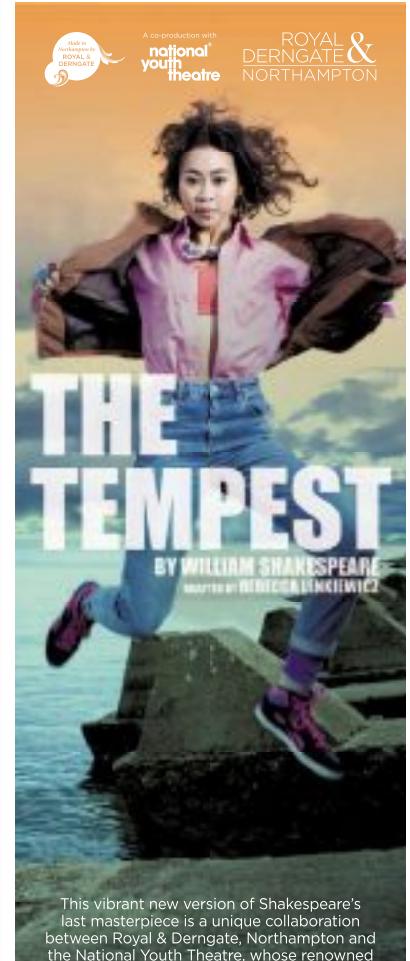
The performance takes place at Earls Barton Working Men's Club in Queen Street at 8pm on June 17.

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DON'T MISS THIS

FRIDAY

Outdoor cinema screens Monty Python film

The outdoor cinema experience returns to the lake-side amphitheatre at Stanwick Lakes. The summer season continues with the Monty Python comic masterpiece 'Life of Brian' at 10pm. Tickets cost £11.50 from www.lunaflix.co.uk.



SITTING with eight, nine and 12 year olds singing about bile, blood and phlegm was not a typical way to spend a Tuesday night.

But this was a trip to see the stage version of the hugely popular Horrible Histories franchise, based on Terry Deary's marvellous books for kids.

The first half uses modern popular entertainment formats including The Simpsons, The Hunger Games, Casualty and cheesy shopping channels to explain Helen of Troy, Hippocrates, The Olympics and child slavery to an engrossed audience of kids and grown-ups alike.

Don't expect the original TV stars - this is a spin-off with excellent young actors Holly Morgan, Evelyn Adams, Tom Moores and Elliot Fitzpatrick (who might remind the oldies of Chris Barrie in Red Dwarf).

It's an exciting way to introduce history to the young (and those of us who didn't concentrate hard enough in school). My only reservation would be the price of tickets: if they could do it for a tenner a head the place would be packed.

Horrible Histories is on stage at Derngate until Saturday. Tickets are £16-18 on 01604 624811 or via www.royalandderngate.co.uk.

Hilary Scott

Horrible Histories at Derngate

SATURDAY

Live music at Costa Coffee in Wellingborough

Naomi Laurance and Jessica Smith sing live at Costa in the town's Market Street providing a mix of jazz, pop and gospel songs. This is a free event hosted by Compass Church. Doors open at 6pm with music from 6.30pm to 8pm.

Crick Flower Festival celebrates Queen's birthday

A festival to celebrate Queen Elizabeth's 90th birthday. Today and tomorrow, St Margaret's Church in Crick will be full of flowers with displays representing all aspects of the Queen's life. Entry is free. It runs 10am-4.30pm on Saturday and 11.30am-4.30pm on Sunday.

Wicksteed At War

Enjoy history being brought to life at Wicksteed Park with hundreds of military vehicles and reenactors on display, a full arena of entertainment, fly-bys, battles and stalls. The event is free and on today and tomorrow from 9am-5pm.

SUNDAY

Wilby Party in the Park

Celebrate the Queen's birthday at Wilby Playing Fields and Pavilion where there are tombolas, children's sports day races and a fancy dress competition. 1pm to 3pm. Free entry.

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Fans' guide

France, here we come!

England fan **Jonathan Reed** shares his tips on how to make the most of the football fest



TRAVEL ▶



NOTHING is certain in life but death and taxes. You can add to that travel websites being hit with a spike in bookings once the groups have been sorted for a major football championship.

It really does pay to shop around – even at this late stage.

Flying out from Heathrow to Marseille with BA on the Friday before the first group game, returning on the Sunday, will set you back more than £700. Ouch! But if you fly to Nice you can save around £300 and take the train on the day of the game (about £40 return).

A friend who is heading to France this month has been to every England away match in the past five years. He is flying out via Amsterdam and paid around £150 return when the draw was made. This cheaper method can still pay off, so get on those search engines.

If you're planning to go to all three England group games it will involve a fair amount of travelling. Marseille to Lens is more than 600 miles and it's another 450 miles to get back to St Etienne for the Slovakia match.

An interrail pass is ideal and allows a choice of unlimited travel on up to eight days within a one-month period. An adult can travel for four separate days at a cost of £179 but, be warned, it is compulsory to pre-book seats on some trains.

If money is no object, why not go to France in style on a Victor private jet service package? A multi-leg trip, flying out from London, and taking in the semi-finals in Lyon and Marseille before heading to Paris for the final on a six-seater Citation CJ3 jet will set back your group in the region of £14,000. Not exactly cheap, but definitely a trip to remember.



WHERE TO STAY ▾

IT really is jackpot time for hoteliers when England roll into town.

With a predicted 50,000 fans heading over to France, there won't be a shortage of takers for the few rooms which are still available.

The late kick-off for the Russia match means there will be few trains leaving Marseille after the final whistle. Expect to pay at least four times the going rate for a room for the night, while the hostels are also extremely expensive. A couple of options worth pursuing are Airbnb or Homelidays.

Lens – where the ground capacity is greater than the town's population – will also present similar problems in terms of finding a bed for the night, while Lyon is the ideal place to be based for those making the trip to St Etienne.

WHAT TO DO ▾

MARSEILLE is France's second biggest city and at its heart is the Vieux Port, where many of the best bars and restaurants can be found.

In 2013 Marseille was the European Capital of Culture and it really is an atmospheric place. The Chateau d'If, setting for Alexandre Dumas' *The Count of Monte Cristo*, is a 16th century island prison castle and can be easily reached from the Vieux Port.

The Open Tour is one of the best ways to see the city. It's a hop-on, hop-off service

and costs roughly £15 for an adult. Art lovers are well catered for in Lens. The city is home to the Louvre-Lens, and hosts collections of the Musée du Louvre that are lent to the museum on a long-term basis.

St Etienne has one of the most successful teams in France and has won 10 Ligue One titles, although its last triumph dates back to 1981.

There's a museum devoted to Les Verts whose most famous players include Michel Platini and Laurent Blanc.



ENGLAND'S total allocation for the three group games is 23,520, although the FA had to return tickets for the opener with Russia after failing to sell its allocation of nearly 11,000.

If you haven't secured your tickets through official channels such as the FA or UEFA, your options at this stage are to go down the secondary selling site route or buy outside the ground.

Secondary sites, such as StubHub and Viagogo, have tickets available for the England v Russia match from about £120. Not surprisingly, the England v Wales clash at the 35,000 Stade Bollaert-Delelis in Lens is attracting the greatest demand, and will set you back at least £350.

If you decide to wait until

match day you won't be on your own. A recent Foreign Office survey of home nations fans planning to travel to France showed that more than half (57 per cent) do not have tickets. Of those, 29 per cent plan to buy at the ground.

Buying off tout really is pot luck. A friend of mine ended up schmoozing in the African FA hospitality box at the Nigeria v Romania group game in Toulouse in 1998, for the princely sum of £90.

STAYING AT HOME

IF you're not tempted to cross the Channel then ITV and BBC have it all covered. ITV are showing the two group games against Russia and Slovakia (8pm), while BBC will cover the Wales game in Lens (2pm).



Preview



There is a pace and rhythm about England's play which gives fans genuine optimism

Roy's boys are on a roll

by Frank Malley

ON June 11, England will line up against Russia in the Stade Velodrome in the edgy city of Marseille for their first group match in Euro 2016 with genuine hope and anticipation.

No one is saying they will win their first major football tournament since Alf Ramsey's boys lifted the World Cup half a century ago.

No one realistically is expecting the heady whirl of 20 years ago, when England reached the semi-finals of Euro 1996 to the captivating soundtrack of 'Three Lions'.

England have let down their fans too often in the intervening years for that sort of expectation to take root, but there is a growing feeling that an exuberant England side could at last make an impact deep into a major tournament.

Youthful vigour and vibrancy are crucial to Hodgson, which is why he named Manchester United's emerging 18-year-old striker Marcus Rashford in his initial squad.

His biggest conundrum, though, is somewhat older in 30-year-old Wayne Rooney, his captain, record goalscorer and England talisman for more than a decade.

In the friendly against Germany in March, there was a glimpse of the new England, a hard-running, bright, innovative England with Harry Kane at its focal point.

Kane is England's first-choice centre-forward. That is non-negotiable after a brilliant 25-goal season for Tottenham, where he has matured into a lethal striker.

After that, Hodgson has options. Lots of them. He could play Leicester's Jamie Vardy alongside Kane. He could play Rooney as a withdrawn striker behind Kane. He could play him wide in a front three, but that has never been Rooney's preferred role. He could leave his captain on the bench and use him as an impact player.

The point is that Rooney, the brilliant young talisman at Euro

Rooney the conundrum as optimism grows for Hodgson

2004, is no longer a definite starter. If he is fully fit and rediscovers his finest form, it would be difficult to leave out a player with his scoring record and his positive influence on those around him.

But the fact that England have progressed with a pleasing tempo this past 12 months means Rooney's absence would not be the blow it might once have been.

Psychologically, England could not be in a better place. They qualified for Euro 2016 by winning all their matches – in an admittedly easy group – and there is a pace and rhythm about their play which gives real hope to their fans.

In Dele Alli they possess an attacking midfielder with quick feet and vision, one who crucially has a close understanding with Tottenham team-mate Kane, and in Eric Dier they have a midfielder of composure and intelligence.

They have attackers of real pace and a fine goalkeeper in Joe Hart.

Hodgson's biggest concern remains his defence where, despite the promise of John Stones, there is a brittleness about such as Chris Smalling, Gary Cahill, Kyle Walker and Ryan Bertrand.

Hodgson, however, has reason to be confident. "Whenever you go into a tournament you have to go into it hoping to win," he said. "If you ask any of the teams, they'll think they can do it."

"No-one expected Denmark in 1992, Greece, Leicester to win the Premier League. Everyone needs that dream and hope and belief."

Welsh fans are certainly in dreamland. They last



Rooney, the brilliant young talisman at Euro 2004, is no longer a definite starter

participated in the finals of a major tournament in the 1958 World Cup in Sweden, when the legendary John Charles inspired them to reach the quarter-finals. They are drawn in the same group as England and their clash in Lens on June 16 is likely to be pivotal for both teams.

So much for the Welsh rests on Gareth Bale, who scored seven goals in qualifying, including the only goal in the defining home win over Belgium. The Real Madrid star will be desperate to excel against his former Premier League counterparts.

Northern Ireland, at their first major tournament for 30 years, face a huge task in a group which includes Poland, Ukraine and world champions Germany.

Martin O'Neill and the Republic of Ireland, meanwhile, have the toughest task of all, locked in a so-called group of death with Sweden, Belgium and Italy.

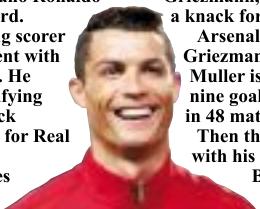
Ronaldo set to strike gold

by Frank Malley

WHEN it comes to excelling at the toughest aspect of the game, scoring goals, the cream is usually at the top and, on that basis, it would be folly to back against Cristiano Ronaldo winning the Golden Boot award.

Ronaldo, inset, is the leading scorer in the history of the tournament with 23 goals, including qualifying. He scored five in Portugal's qualifying campaign, including a hat-trick against Armenia, and his rate for Real Madrid is phenomenal.

The Golden Boot rarely goes to a player whose side does



not survive deep into the tournament, and Portugal should canter through a group which includes Austria, Hungary and Iceland.

Home advantage should make France a force, which is good news for Antoine Griezmann, the Atletico Madrid forward with a knack for scoring crucial goals.

Arsenal's Olivier Giroud will be alongside Griezmann, while German striker Thomas Muller is another contender. He scored nine goals in qualifying and netted 32 times in 48 matches for Bayern last season.

Then there is Harry Kane of England, with his natural goal-scoring ability. But the smart money? It has to be Ronaldo.

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England

Full fixtures guide
 - See pages 6-7



Jamie Vardy scores the winner in England's 2-1 Euros warm-up victory over Turkey

Foxes' fairytale perfectly timed

by Simon Peach

HOPE rather expectation is the overriding emotion as England look to make their mark at Euro 2016, yet Leicester's fairytale campaign offers tantalising proof of what can be achieved when a group of talented players buys into a philosophy.

Roy Hodgson is perhaps fortunate to this summer be approaching his third major tournament in charge of the country of his birth after things unravelled so spectacularly at the World Cup two years ago.

Failing to win a match in Brazil did not cost the widely-travelled 68-year-old his job, though, and the Football Association's calculated gamble has seemingly paid off.

Hodgson has gone about replacing much of the old guard with a fresh, young core, while simultaneously securing impressive results and England's passage to Euro 2016 with the only 100 per cent record in qualification.

"I don't want the players to be fearful, I don't want the players to be weighed down by expectations or thoughts of what might happen if they don't succeed," said the England manager. "We've seen this year the example with

Overcoming the likes of Estonia and San Marino is, admittedly, hardly a yardstick with which to measure serious progress, but they did their job manfully having overcome their toughest opponent in their opening match.

Danny Welbeck's brace secured that 2-0 win in Switzerland on September 8, 2014 – a time when promoted Leicester were still looking for their first win back in the Premier League.

A lot has changed in the subsequent 20 months, with the Foxes' dramatic fight against the drop followed by an unthinkable rise to the title – largely thanks to Jamie Vardy's goals – providing Hodgson with a remarkable touchstone for upsetting the odds.

"I don't want the players to be fearful, I don't want the players to be weighed down by expectations or thoughts of what might happen if they don't succeed," said the England manager. "We've seen this year the example with

Leicester City: weeks and weeks turning into months and months of how long can this last? Is it all going to crack up?

"Each time what they've done is work hard, try hard and tried to make certain going into each game they're capable of winning it. That's all we can do as well."

"Nobody expected Denmark to win it in '92; nobody expected Greece to win the Euros in 2004; no one expected Leicester to win the league."

Odds of 5,000-1 underlined just how unlikely the triumph masterminded by Claudio Ranieri was, with Leicester's story acting as perhaps that little extra slither of belief required for the national team.

Questions still linger over defensive strength, but there is at least some hope after the disastrous 2014 World Cup.

Whether they have enough to end 50 years of hurt remains to be seen, but the Three Lions only need to look to the Foxes for inspiration of upsetting the odds.

Squad

Goalkeepers: Joe Hart (Manchester City), Fraser Forster (Southampton), Tom Heaton (Burnley).

Defenders: Gary Cahill (Chelsea), Chris Smalling (Manchester United), John Stones (Everton), Kyle Walker (Tottenham Hotspur), Ryan Bertrand (Southampton), Danny Rose (Tottenham Hotspur), Nathaniel Clyne (Liverpool).

Midfielders: Dele Alli (Tottenham Hotspur), Ross Barkley (Everton), Eric Dier (Tottenham Hotspur), Jordan Henderson (Liverpool), Adam Lallana (Liverpool), James Milner (Liverpool), Raheem Sterling (Manchester City), Jack Wilshere (Arsenal).

Strikers: Wayne Rooney (Manchester United), Harry Kane (Tottenham Hotspur), Jamie Vardy (Leicester City), Daniel Sturridge (Liverpool), Marcus Rashford (Manchester United).

Star player - Harry Kane



Wayne Rooney may be England's all-time leading goalscorer, but his performance levels have dipped this season while Kane has continued to impress for Tottenham. He scored 21 League goals last season and now has the chance to prove he is one of the leading marksmen in Europe.

Coach - Roy Hodgson

The well-travelled 68-year-old was perhaps fortunate to stay after England's early exit at the 2014 World Cup, but has been given the chance to rebuild the squad. Another failure would almost certainly cost him his job.



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England



It could be the most exciting partnership since Sheringham and Shearer at Euro 96

Kane and Alli - a match made in heaven

by Tom Allnutt

THE last time England played at the European Championship, Harry Kane had just finished a loan spell at Millwall and Dele Alli was completing his GCSEs.

Both did fairly well. Kane scored nine goals and was named the club's Young Player of the Season, while Alli left school with nine A to C grades, including As in Sport and Drama.

As Kane cleared out his locker at Millwall's training ground in Bromley and Alli signed off his final examination paper, it is hard to conceive either imagined that four years on they would be two of the most prized assets in the Premier League and Roy Hodgson's starting line-up.

In fact, their breakthroughs were still some way off when Andrea Pirlo was passing and penalty-chipping England out of the quarter-finals at Euro 2012.

Kane spent the following season on loan at Norwich and then Leicester, scoring just twice in 21 appearances, while Alli would make his MK Dons debut in November, but was handed only a single league start before the campaign was out.

England's class of 2016 have proven fast learners and Hodgson now has an embarrassment of attacking



riches. Hodgson can simplify the equation by etching in Kane and Alli, and moulding the rest around them.

Of Kane's 25 league goals for Tottenham this season, seven were assisted by Alli and after the striker's double against Bournemouth in March, Alli to Kane was the pass most likely to create a goal in Europe.

Alli was initially deployed in central midfield by Mauricio Pochettino – and that may yet be where his long-term future lies – but it soon became apparent his craft in the final third and well-timed runs into the box were too precious a threat to waste anywhere other than around the opposition's

back line. His goals, 11 of them for club and country, and assists, nine for Spurs in the league, are clear to see, but less obvious is the impact the 20-year-old has on Kane and a team's ability to break down a defence.

England, like Tottenham, are prone to stodginess against sides happy to sit back, but Alli is one of those rare midfielders eager to break lines, his runs on the ball down the flanks and off the ball through the middle opening up gaps.

Kane, the Premier League Golden Boot winner, must play up front and down the middle, Alli either just off him in the centre or on the left with the

freedom to cut inside. It is not a strategy without risk. But if Kane and Alli are given license to continue the chemistry shown for their club, England could have their most exciting partnership since Alan Shearer and Teddy Sheringham dazzled at Euro 96.

Hodgson appears ready to roll the dice.

"Germany coach Joachim Löw gave x, y and z chances, they had no experience but he believed in their talent and how they took their chance," said Hodgson recently.

"We have to believe the same will happen with ours, because there is no reason not to." Kane and Alli can lead the charge.

Possible England line-up



Did you know?

- ❖ Frenchman Henri Delaunay suggested a tournament between Europe's top national sides in 1927 – but it wasn't ratified by UEFA until 1958
- ❖ British teams initially refused to compete in the event, fearing it would signal the end of the home internationals
- ❖ Luxembourg, with a population of 300,000, produced the first upset of the tournament by knocking out the Netherlands in 1964

How Hodgson's 23 measure up

ROY HODGSON has put his faith in the following 23 players to bring the European trophy back to England:

GOALKEEPERS

Joe Hart (Man City, 58 caps, 0 goals): England's established No.1 and an experienced campaigner. Will be asked to lead and organise.

Fraser Forster (Southampton, 6 caps, 0 goals): Returned from 10 months out injured to set a new club record of six straight clean sheets earlier this season.

Tom Heaton (Burnley, 1 caps, 0 goals): Named in the Championship team of the season after helping the Clarets win the title.

DEFENCE

Nathaniel Clyne (Liverpool, 12 caps, 0 goals): Now fully settled into life at Jürgen Klopp's Liverpool, he brings energy to everything he does from right-back.

Kyle Walker (Tottenham, 15 caps, 0 goals): Will be battling Clyne for a starting spot despite featuring in just one of the qualifiers.

Danny Rose (Tottenham, 3 caps, 0 goals): Showings against Germany and Turkey make a compelling case for him to start the tournament at left-back.

Gary Cahill (Chelsea, 42 caps, 3 goals): Hodgson will be hoping the centre-half will not be adversely affected by Chelsea's dire season.

Chris Smalling (Man Utd, 24 caps, 0 goals): His authority and consistency have risen and he is rapidly building his international credentials.

Ryan Bertrand (Southampton, 8 caps, 0 goals): Continues to impress with Saints and earns his spot in what has become a crowded field at left-back.

John Stones (Everton, 10 caps, 0 goals): Question marks over his confidence, yet remains a big part of the future.

MIDFIELD

Dele Alli (Tottenham, 7 caps, 1 goal): The PFA Young Player of the Year and a driving force behind Spurs' title push.

Jordan Henderson (Liverpool, 25 caps, 0 goals): A badly-timed knee injury left the midfielder sweating over his place, but proved his fitness by featuring in both warm-up friendlies.

James Milner (Liverpool, 59 caps, 1 goal): Adds an experienced head to the more dynamic talents around him.

Eric Dier (Tottenham, 6 caps, 1 goal): A revelatory showing at the base of the midfield in the 3-2 friendly win over Germany. The own goal against Australia looked an aberration.

Adam Lallana (Liverpool, 22 caps, 0 goals): A regular fixture in the Roy Hodgson era, but still awaiting his defining moment for the Three Lions.

Ross Barkley (Everton, 22 caps, 2 goals): Has had his best season in terms of goals, but

few would argue Barkley's progress has been serene.

Jack Wilshere (Arsenal, 30 caps, 2 goals): Another season of injury woe for the 24-year-old, but his bad luck ceased in time for him to get back on the pitch before the end of the campaign.

Raheem Sterling (Man City, 22 caps, 2 goals): A concerning inconsistency in his game, but he has pace, tricks and unpredictability in his favour and netted twice in qualifying.

FORWARDS

Wayne Rooney (Man Utd, 110 caps, 52 goals): Captain. A star in qualifying, but outperformed over

the past season by a handful of strikers.

Harry Kane (Tottenham, 11 caps, 5 goals): Looks England's most obvious goal threat, underlined by netting minutes into the Turkey win.

Jamie Vardy (Leicester, 7 caps, 3 goals): Having netted in three successive international matches, England will look to harness his hunger.

Daniel Sturridge (Liverpool, 17 caps, 5 goals): While he may not possess the sharpest all-round game, he is an instinctive goalscorer.

Marcus Rashford (Man Utd, 1 cap, 1 goal, left): There is a fearlessness and verve about Rashford, with his displays on international duty enough to see him head to France.





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**ASPERS
CASINO**
Northampton

Euro 2016 wallchart



GROUP A

Friday, 10 June, 8pm Stade de France

France **Romania**

Saturday, 11 June, 2pm Lens

Albania **Switzerland**

Wednesday, 15 June, 5pm Parc des Princes

Romania **Switzerland**

Wednesday, 15 June, 8pm Marseille

France **Albania**

Sunday, 19 June, 8pm Lyon

Romania **Albania**

Sunday, 19 June, 8pm Lille

Switzerland **France**

GROUP A TABLE

| | W | D | L | F | A | GD | Pts |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|----|-----|
|--|---|---|---|---|---|----|-----|

A1

A2

A3

A4

HOW THEY QUALIFY

■ The six group winners and six runners-up qualify for the Round of 16, together with the four best third-placed teams. Those four are determined by, in order: most points; superior goal difference; most goals scored; fair play in the tournament; UEFA rankings.

■ The four best third-placed teams are placed in the Round of 16 depending on which four groups they come from. The table shows their opponents depending on the permutation of successful groups in the first column:

| A1v | B1v | C1v | D1v |
|------|-----|-----|-----|
| ABCD | 3C | 3D | 3A |
| ABCE | 3C | 3A | 3B |
| ABCF | 3C | 3A | 3B |
| ABDE | 3D | 3A | 3B |
| ABDF | 3D | 3A | 3B |
| ABEF | 3E | 3A | 3B |
| ACDE | 3C | 3D | 3A |
| ACDF | 3C | 3D | 3A |

| A1v | B1v | C1v | D1v |
|------|-----|-----|-----|
| ACEF | 3C | 3A | 3F |
| ADEF | 3D | 3A | 3F |
| BCDE | 3C | 3D | 3B |
| BCDF | 3C | 3D | 3B |
| BCEF | 3E | 3C | 3B |
| BDEF | 3E | 3D | 3B |
| CDEF | 3C | 3D | 3F |

GROUP B

Saturday, 11 June, 5pm Bordeaux

Wales **Slovakia**

Saturday, 11 June, 8pm Marseille

England **Russia**

Wednesday, 15 June, 2pm Lille

Russia **Slovakia**

Thursday, 16 June, 2pm Lens

England **Wales**

Monday, 20 June, 8pm Toulouse

Russia **Wales**

Monday, 20 June, 8pm Saint-Etienne

Slovakia **England**

GROUP B TABLE

| | W | D | L | F | A | GD | Pts |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|----|-----|
|--|---|---|---|---|---|----|-----|

B1

B2

B3

B4

GROUP C

Sunday, 12 June, 5pm Nice

Poland **N.Ireland**

Sunday, 12 June, 8pm Lille

Germany **Ukraine**

Thursday, 16 June, 5pm Lyon

Ukraine **N.Ireland**

Thursday, 16 June, 8pm Stade de France

Germany **Poland**

Tuesday, 21 June, 5pm Marseille

Ukraine **Poland**

Tuesday, 21 June, 5pm Parc des Princes

N.Ireland **Germany**

GROUP C TABLE

| | W | D | L | F | A | GD | Pts |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|----|-----|
|--|---|---|---|---|---|----|-----|

C1

C2

C3

C4

ROUND OF 16

1. Saturday, 25 June, 2pm Saint-Etienne

A2 **C2**

2. Saturday, 25 June, 8pm Lens

D1 **B/E/F3**

3. Saturday, 25 June, 5pm Parc des Princes

B1 **A/C/D3**

4. Sunday, 26 June, 8pm Toulouse

F1 **E2**

5. Sunday, 26 June, 5pm Lille

C1 **A/B/F3**

6. Monday, 27 June, 5pm Stade de France

E1 **D2**

7. Sunday, 26 June, 2pm Lyon

A1 **C/D/E3**

8. Monday, 27 June, 8pm Nice

B2 **F2**

**CATCH THE ACTION
AT ASPERS**



Fixture planner
June 10–July 10

GROUP D

| | |
|---|------------------|
| Sunday, 12 June, 2pm | Parc des Princes |
| Turkey <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Croatia | |
| Monday, 13 June, 2pm | Toulouse |
| Spain <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Czech Rep | |
| Friday, 17 June, 5pm | Saint-Etienne |
| Czech Rep <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Croatia | |
| Friday, 17 June, 8pm | Nice |
| Spain <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Turkey | |
| Tuesday, 21 June, 8pm | Lens |
| Czech Rep <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Turkey | |
| Tuesday, 21 June, 8pm | Bordeaux |
| Croatia <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Spain | |

GROUP E

| | |
|---|-----------------|
| Monday, 13 June, 5pm | Stade de France |
| Rep Ireland <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Sweden | |
| Monday, 13 June, 8pm | Lyon |
| Belgium <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Italy | |
| Friday, 17 June, 2pm | Toulouse |
| Italy <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Sweden | |
| Saturday, 18 June, 2pm | Bordeaux |
| Belgium <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Rep Ireland | |
| Wednesday, 22 June, 8pm | Lille |
| Italy <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Rep Ireland | |
| Wednesday, 22 June, 8pm | Nice |
| Sweden <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Belgium | |

GROUP F

| | |
|--|------------------|
| Tuesday, 14 June, 5pm | Bordeaux |
| Austria <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Hungary | |
| Tuesday, 14 June, 8pm | Saint-Etienne |
| Portugal <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Iceland | |
| Saturday, 18 June, 5pm | Marseille |
| Iceland <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Hungary | |
| Saturday, 18 June, 8pm | Parc des Princes |
| Portugal <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Austria | |
| Wednesday, 22 June, 5pm | Stade de France |
| Iceland <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Austria | |
| Wednesday, 22 June, 5pm | Lyon |
| Hungary <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Portugal | |

GROUP D TABLE

| W | D | L | F | A | GD | Pts |
|---|---|---|---|---|----|-----|
|---|---|---|---|---|----|-----|

D1

D2

D3

D4

GROUP E TABLE

| W | D | L | F | A | GD | Pts |
|---|---|---|---|---|----|-----|
|---|---|---|---|---|----|-----|

E1

E2

E3

E4

GROUP F TABLE

| W | D | L | F | A | GD | Pts |
|---|---|---|---|---|----|-----|
|---|---|---|---|---|----|-----|

F1

F2

F3

F4

QUARTER-FINALS

| | |
|---|-----------------|
| QF1. Thursday, 30 June, 8pm | Marseille |
| Winner 1 <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Winner 2 | |
| QF2. Friday, 1 July, 8pm | Lille |
| Winner 3 <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Winner 4 | |
| QF3. Saturday, 2 July, 8pm | Bordeaux |
| Winner 5 <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Winner 6 | |
| QF4. Sunday, 3 July, 8pm | Stade de France |
| Winner 7 <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Winner 8 | |

SEMI-FINALS

| | |
|------------------------|------|
| Wednesday, 6 July, 8pm | Lyon |
|------------------------|------|

| | |
|---|--|
| Winner QF1 <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Winner QF2 | |
|---|--|

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------|
| Thursday, 7 July, 8pm | Marseille |
|-----------------------|-----------|

| | |
|---|--|
| Winner QF3 <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Winner QF4 | |
|---|--|

EURO 2016 FINAL

| | |
|----------------------|-----------------|
| Sunday, 10 July, 8pm | Stade de France |
|----------------------|-----------------|



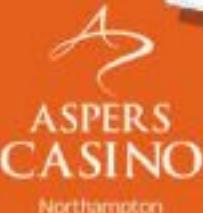
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VS RUSSIA

THU 16TH JUNE
FROM 2PM
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VS WALES

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England



Hodgson's defenders do not ooze authority or composure

Back to the future

by Frank Malley

THERE was a time when an England football manager could agonise over his midfield and attacking options going into a major tournament in the certain knowledge that at least he could rely on his central defence.

Not Roy Hodgson. The England boss will take his squad to France for Euro 2016 knowing that there are goals in his side. In Harry Kane and Jamie Vardy and Delle Alli and Wayne Rooney, even if the England captain is pressed into a deeper midfield role as seems likely.

Going forward there is a vigour and a tempo to England's recent performances which have been hugely encouraging.

But always, even in victory, there have been doubts. The signs are that the back door to England's Euro 2016 challenge is too prone to swing open at the most inopportune moments.

Hodgson, eager to accommodate his attacking talents, has opted to take just

Hodgson must rely on his attack to offset a shaky line of defence

three central defenders in the shape of Chris Smalling, Gary Cahill and John Stones, none of whom are specialist left-sided defenders.

That would not be a major problem if they were all in fine form and bursting with confidence. They aren't.

Cahill has struggled to hold down a regular place in the Chelsea side this past season. Stones, at 21 an elegant and promising ball player, was left out of the Everton side for most of the second half of the season.

And while Smalling was a fixture for Manchester United his aberration when getting sent off in the FA Cup final, pulling a player down by the legs rugby-style against Crystal Palace, only highlighted the brittle nature of his decision-making.

They do not ooze authority or composure. Not when compared with some of the mighty defenders of England

past. Ever since Bobby Moore turned leading from the back into an elegant art form England have been blessed with central defenders of courage and stature.

Men such as Terry Butcher, Tony Adams and Des Walker.

Players such as Sol Campbell, a formidable presence in the centre-back position who was the only England player to be named in the FIFA World Cup All-Star team in 2002 in Japan.

There is no point dwelling on the past and Hodgson had no real alternative but to put his faith in Smalling, Cahill and Stones.

The tentative nature of their defending, however, does illuminate the gamble. Hodgson has accepted by not adding a fourth central defender to his squad. Instead, he preferred to argue that holding midfielder Eric Dier could be pressed into the central defensive role if needed, even though he did not

play there for Tottenham last season. That is worrying. Major tournaments can be won by disguising weaknesses and filling in for vulnerable teammates and Brazil have lifted several World Cups while displaying defensive frailties.

But the most prestigious trophies are rarely lifted by a team with weakness at its central core. We can be sure that Russia will have noted how Turkey caused panic and chaotic positioning in England's defence to score in the first of England's three pre-tournament friendlies at the Etihad stadium.

Quick, technical opponents scythed a way through. England will face plenty of those if they progress deep into the tournament.

Hodgson has instigated a high pressing game and forged a team with the ability to counter-attack with devastating pace. It is bold and brave but it is also the strategy of a manager who really knows the score.

For Hodgson's England, attack is the best form of defence.



John Stones holds off Turkey's Cenk Tosun in the 2-1 pre-Euros friendly victory at the Etihad Stadium

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La meccanica delle emozioni



Wales



I feel Welsh and people can see I've given my all for the country

Williams' joyride

Skipper lapping up life with his adopted country

by Phil Blanche

WALES captain Ashley Williams is the outsider who came in from the cold.

The teenage Williams was shown the door at West Brom and had to fight his way to the top via non-league football and plenty of unglamorous jobs outside the game.

On a CV that includes spells at Hednesford and Stockport, there is also time served as a petrol station attendant, a waiter at a Beefeater restaurant and a stall worker at a theme park.

Even when Wolverhampton-born Williams eventually wore the red of Wales, courtesy of a Welsh grandfather, he might have been forgiven for feeling like a foreigner.

Chris Coleman chose the man with the broad Midlands accent to replace Aaron Ramsey as captain in October 2012, as Wales struggled to cope with the transition following the tragic death of previous manager Gary Speed.

But Williams, who had joined Swansea from Stockport in 2008, was caught in the crossfire as the inter-club rivalry in Welsh football reared its head.

"Ashley Williams, he's not even Welsh," sang a section of Cardiff fans keen to show support for their former favourite, Ramsey.

Nearly four years on, that dissent has disappeared and Williams is now the undisputed leader of a side which ended 58 years of hurt by qualifying for Euro 2016.

He was the rock in a defence which conceded only four times in 10 qualifiers, his performances not going unnoticed by those who selected the Euro 2016 qualifiers all-star XI. So no-one in Wales will be worrying



Ashley Williams pulls away from Northern Ireland's Jamie Ward in a friendly

where he was born and brought up when Coleman's side play England in Lens on June 16, least of all Williams.

"I wasn't born here, I grew up watching England in football, rugby, whatever," Williams has said.

"I have Welsh blood, but I'm not stupid enough to go around saying I'm Welsh when I was born where I was born."

"I know people will have their opinions about it, but I feel Welsh and hopefully people can see I've given my all for the country."

"I've played through injuries, learned the anthem before we were told to do it as a squad, researched the teams of the past, I've thrown myself into it. I know what it means because I feel it."

Williams was establishing his reputation at Stockport

when a slice of luck set him on the path to an international career.

Brian Flynn, then Wales' youth chief, had travelled to Stockport to watch Wayne Hennessey during the goalkeeper's loan spell from Swansea.

Flynn was impressed with the young central defender with the Welsh-sounding surname and enquiries were made as to whether Williams qualified for Wales.

When the Football Association of Wales were told the answer was yes, Williams was duly named in John Toshack's next squad and made his debut against Luxembourg in March 2008.

The very next day Williams strengthened his ties to Wales by signing for Swansea, first on loan and then in a permanent

£400,000 deal two months later. It is not an exaggeration to say that represents probably the best bit of business in Swansea's history.

Williams was soon celebrating promotion from League One and three years later was a mainstay of the Swansea side which won promotion to the Premier League through the Championship play-offs.

In the intervening five seasons he has developed into one of the most consistent defenders in the top flight and was instrumental in Swansea winning the Capital One Cup in 2013 and qualifying for Europe.

He has combined a physical approach with astute positional sense and an ability to play from the back as Swansea have established themselves in the Premier League.

Williams' leadership skills were spotted by Swansea long before Coleman took the difficult decision to replace the popular Ramsey and his injury-free record is remarkable in modern-day football.

The 31-year-old has now made more than 350 appearances for Swansea and played 58 times for Wales in becoming indispensable for club and country.

"It took so long to qualify but it isn't job done – it's the start of something else now," said Williams. "We want this to be a springboard."

The roller-coaster ride for the former theme park worker may not be about to stop in France.

Squad

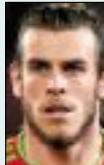
Goalkeepers: Wayne Hennessey (Crystal Palace), Daniel Ward (Liverpool), Owain Fon Williams (Inverness Caledonian Thistle).

Defenders: Ashley Williams (Swansea), James Chester (West Brom), Ben Davies (Tottenham), James Collins (West Ham), Chris Gunter (Reading), Neil Taylor (Swansea), Jazz Richards (Fulham).

Midfielders: Joe Ledley (Crystal Palace), Joe Allen (Liverpool), David Vaughan (Nottingham Forest), Jonathan Williams (Crystal Palace), David Edwards (Wolves), George Williams (Fulham), Aaron Ramsey (Arsenal), Andy King (Leicester City).

Forwards: Gareth Bale (Real Madrid), David Cotterill (Birmingham City), Hal Robson-Kanu (Reading), Simon Church (MK Dons), Sam Vokes (Burnley).

Star player - Gareth Bale



The world's most expensive player was a force of nature in the Euro 2016 qualifiers as he dragged Wales towards France with his attacking brilliance and his infectious work-rate. Seven goals and two assists in qualifying make the Real Madrid man simply irreplaceable.

Coach - Chris Coleman

The former Fulham and Real Sociedad manager took some time to convince the critics he was the man for the job. But Coleman has developed a successful tactical strategy and fostered a terrific team spirit.



How Ramsey fought back from adversity

AARON RAMSEY has always kept the faith.

In choosing football over other sports, to believing that Arsenal was a better bet than Manchester United, Ramsey had to make tough decisions at an early age.

Then came personal heartache and loss.

A shattering double fracture of a leg when still a teenager and the tragic death of his Wales manager Gary Speed, the man who had made him the youngest captain of his country at the age of 20 years and 90 days.

It was an honour that Ramsey was to lose when Speed's successor, Chris Coleman, wanted the more experienced Ashley Williams to wear the armband, and for the midfielder to focus on his game.

Ramsey did so as he won over the snipers who had openly questioned what Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger saw in the young Welshman.

He scored the winner in the 2014 FA Cup final victory over Hull and his box-to-box energy, passing ability, and eye for goal made him impossible for Wenger to omit and drew admiring glances from Barcelona.

All the time Ramsey was adamant that Wales would end 58 years of hurt by qualifying for Euro 2016.

"I always believed we could get ourselves into a position like that from when Gary Speed took over and you could see everything being put in place," Ramsey said last year.

"We started off really well under him and obviously what happened knocked us for a while."

"It wasn't an easy thing to overcome, but I never thought we would fail under Chris."

Ramsey, however, might have followed a different sporting path. A fine 800 metre and cross-country runner, he was a Welsh Schools' pentathlon champion and ranked fourth in Great Britain at under-17 level in 2006. But he was already a member of

Cardiff City's academy, and the rush to the top was on when he became the Bluebirds' youngest-ever player at the age of 16 years and 124 days.

The following season he made 21 appearances as Cardiff reached the 2008 FA Cup final, his final appearance coming as a second-half substitute in the 1-0 defeat to Portsmouth at Wembley.

He almost signed for Manchester United but chose Arsenal. However, a split second at Stoke would soon turn the Welshman's dream move into a nightmare.

A tackle by Stoke defender Ryan Shawcross in February 2010 broke the tibia and fibula in Ramsey's right leg. Ramsey would not play again for Arsenal for more than a year.

Speed offered Ramsey encouragement with the Wales captaincy, but eight months later the manager's sudden death left a nation grieving.

The young captain struggled to comprehend it more than most.

Coleman felt the pressure was too great, and Ramsey needed to take a step back to have a greater impact. It was to prove a masterstroke.

While Gareth Bale played the lead role in guiding Wales to France, Ramsey has blossomed in the central attacking midfield role he prefers.

"We have shown we have a team capable of beating anyone and that's how we will approach the finals," said Ramsey. "One of my targets for this season was to help

Wales to qualify and to show what I'm capable of doing on the big stage."

No-one should doubt the Welshman with the inner steel doing just that.





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Slovakia



There is pedigree
in the ranks



Slovakia's
Vladimir
Weiss
takes the
fight to
Greece
during the
Euro
qualifiers

Slo burners

by Steve Pieters

SLOVAKIA made hard work of getting over the line to qualify, but that can now be forgotten as they prepare for their first European Championship as an independent nation.

The central Europeans only needed to win one of their final two games to be assured of a place in France and that looked a formality as they prepared to host Belarus and then go to Luxembourg.

Nerves perhaps got the better of them, though, as they wasted the chance to qualify in front of their own fans after slipping to a 1-0 defeat to Belarus, despite the visitors playing the last 25 minutes with 10 men.

The goals had suddenly dried up and they had gone more than five hours without one as they made the trip to Luxembourg, so it was a huge relief when three goals in seven first-half minutes appeared to have completed the job.

There was further drama to come, though, as the minnows scored twice in quick succession just after the hour and suddenly Slovakia's qualification hopes were hanging by a thread. That was

Kozak boys can sizzle after late burst of goals

how it stayed until injury time when Marek Hamsik added a fourth goal and finally the celebrations could begin.

Qualification had been made possible by results earlier in the campaign, most notably a stunning 2-1 victory at home to defending champions Spain.

Miroslav Stoch's close-range header in the 87th minute completed a famous win and condemned Spain to their first qualifying defeat in eight years – an unbeaten run which had lasted for 36 matches.

Having already beaten Ukraine 1-0 in Kiev in their opening game, Slovakia could not have made a better start and they went on to win their first six matches to put them on course to win the group.

A 2-0 defeat in Spain ended their 100 per cent record and was the start of the goal drought which threatened to undo all their hard work but, across the course of the campaign, they proved themselves worthy of a place at

the finals. Having knocked Italy out of the 2010 World Cup and beaten Spain in qualifying, Slovakia will not be fazed by the prospect of facing England in their final group game, with results against Wales and Russia dictating what is at stake in the Saint-Etienne showdown.

Hamsik's goal against Luxembourg was one of five he scored during qualifying and the Napoli attacking midfielder is the undoubtedly the dangerman, with Vladimir Weiss often the provider. No player produced more assists during qualifying than the six goals laid on by the well-travelled midfielder, who now plays for Lekhwiya in Qatar after previous spells in England, Scotland, Spain, Italy and Greece.

Slovakia also have quality in defence, with captain Martin Skrtel a proven operator after making more than 300 appearances for Liverpool.

It may be their first European Championship, but the pedigree is there, with Slovakia providing a large part of the Czechoslovakia squad which won the title in 1976.

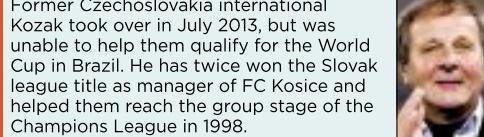
As Spain can testify, the current squad is also capable of mixing it with the best.

Star player - Marek Hamsik

The attacking midfielder moved to Brescia in Italy as a 17-year-old and has developed into one of Serie A's most exciting talents. He joined Napoli in 2007 and has been a regular ever since, captaining them to the Coppa Italia in 2014, and he was Slovakia's leading scorer in qualifying.

Coach - Jan Kozak

Former Czechoslovakia international Kozak took over in July 2013, but was unable to help them qualify for the World Cup in Brazil. He has twice won the Slovak league title as manager of FC Kosice and helped them reach the group stage of the Champions League in 1998.



Squad

Goalkeepers: Matus Kozacik (Viktoria Plzen), Jan Mucha (Slovan Bratislava), Jan Novotna (Rapid Vienna).

Defenders: Peter Pekarik (Hertha Berlin), Milan Skriniar (Sampdoria), Martin Skrtel (Liverpool), Norbert Gomboc (Roma), Jan Durica (Lokomotiv Moscow), Kornel Salata (Slovan Bratislava), Tomas Hubocan (Dinamo Moscow), Dusan Svento (Cologne).

Midfielders: Marek Hamsik (Napoli), Juraj Kucka (AC Milan), Miroslav Stoch (Bursaspor), Vladimir Weiss (Al-Gharafa), Robert Mak (PAOK), Patrik Hrosovsky (Viktoria Plzen), Jan Gregus (Jablonec), Viktor Pecovsky (Zilina), Stanislav Sestak (Ferencvaros), Ondrej Duda (Legia Warsaw).

Forwards: Michal Duris (Viktoria Plzen), Adam Nemec (Willem II).

Russia



They could one of
the dark horses

Slutsky hits sweet spot

by James McEvoy

EURO 2016 must have looked a long way away when Russia could only manage a draw at home to minnows Moldova in their third qualifying match.

A poor start to their campaign meant they were always up against it and they were third in their group in July 2015 when Fabio Capello's contract as coach was ended three years early following a home defeat by Austria.

The Italian had been due to remain in charge through to the 2018 World Cup, which Russia will host, but eight points from the first six qualifiers was a continuation of the poor form which had seen them exit the 2014 World Cup at the group stage without winning a game.

With Russia four points behind Sweden in the qualifying race, CSKA Moscow coach Leonid Slutsky was brought in and masterminded an immediate improvement.

His first match in charge was a crucial 1-0 victory at home to the Swedes and that proved to be the first of four straight wins in the space of five weeks which saw Russia claim second spot in their group and automatic qualification.

So what changed? The removal of a language barrier between the coach and the players certainly helped, with Slutsky the first Russian-speaking coach to take charge of the national team since 2006, while his more attacking tactics also paid off.

Slutsky also got the best out of Artem Dzyuba. The striker grabbed the only goal in the win against Sweden and smashed four past Liechtenstein in a 7-0 rout.

The squad is made up almost entirely of players based in Russia, with the exception of



Denis Cheryshev could be a danger for England

Denis Cheryshev. The winger was the player whose appearance in the Copa del Rey earlier this season resulted in Real Madrid being kicked out of the tournament and he spent the second half of the campaign on loan at Spanish rivals Valencia.

At the back, keeper Igor Akinfeev provides valuable experience. He has been the first choice No.1 at CSKA Moscow since breaking into the team as a 17-year-old and is closing in on a century of appearances for his country.

Akinfeev will be appearing at his fourth European Championship, having been

part of the squad in 2004 and playing every match in 2008 as Russia reached the semi-finals. Russia will fancy their chances of at least qualifying from their group.

Their confidence should be boosted by the knowledge they have won their most recent fixture against each of their group rivals, with Russia pipping England to qualification for Euro 2008.

They looked set to need a play-off again for much of their recent qualifying campaign but, under Slutsky, Russia have proved unbeatable in competitive matches, making them dark horses.

Star player - Artem Dzyuba



The Zenit St Petersburg forward's form was transformed following Slutsky's appointment as coach. The former Spartak Moscow player scored six goals in the next four games, with his overall tally of eight making him Russia's top scorer in a single qualifying campaign for a major tournament.

Coach - Leonid Slutsky

The CSKA Moscow coach took charge on a short-term basis initially and his contract was extended for the finals after qualification was secured. His own playing career as a goalkeeper was ended at the age of 19 after he fell out of a tree while attempting to rescue a neighbour's cat.



Squad

Goalkeepers: Igor Akinfeev (CSKA Moscow), Yuri Lodygin (Zenit St Petersburg), Guilherme (Lokomotiv Moscow).

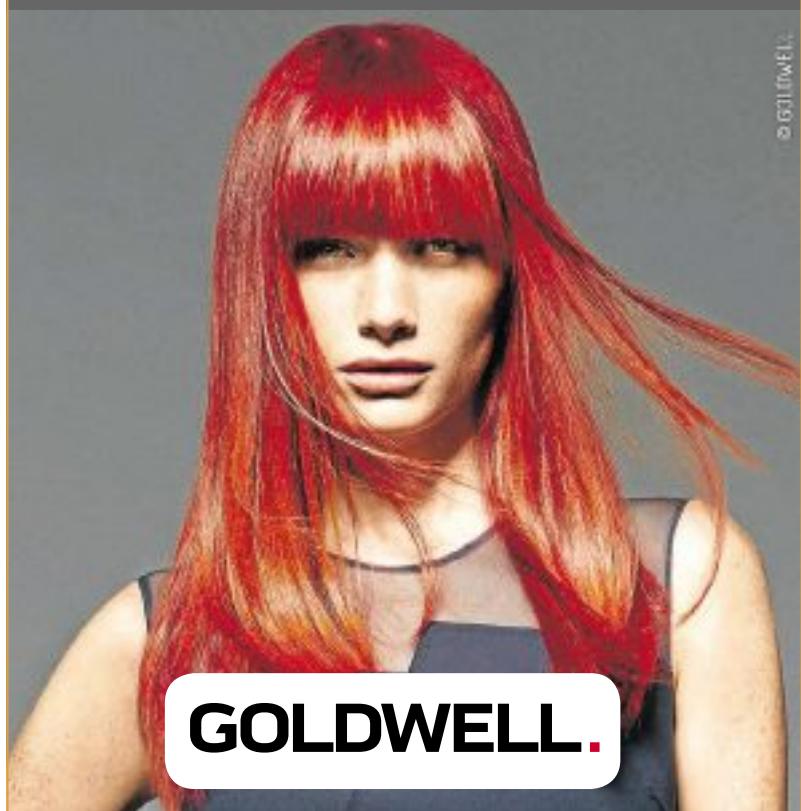
Defenders: Aleksei Berezutski (CSKA M), Vasili Berezutski (CSKA M), Sergei Ignashevich (CSKA M), Dmitri Kombarov (Spartak M), Roman Neustadter (Schalke), Georgi Schennikov (CSKA M), Roman Shishkin (Lokomotiv Moscow), Igor Smolnikov (Zenit St Petersburg).

Midfielders: Igor Denisov (Dynamo Moscow), Dmitri Torbinski (Krasnodar), Aleksandr Golovin (CSKA M), Denis Glushakov (Spartak M), Oleg Ivanov (Terek Grozny), Pavel Mamaev (Krasnodar), Aleksandr Samedov (Lokomotiv M), Oleg Shatov (Zenit St Petersburg), Roman Shirokov (CSKA M).

Forwards: Artem Dzyuba (Zenit St Petersburg), Aleksandr Kokorin (Zenit St Petersburg), Fedor Smolov (Krasnodar).

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Thursday, June 9, 2016

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This new executive three bedroom detached bungalow with a detached double garage is

situated in a private non-estate location.
The accommodation comprises in brief; entrance hall with oak flooring, lounge with feature brick fireplace and solid fuel burner, three bedrooms with en-suite to the master bedroom, kitchen/diner with integrated

appliances and two 'FRANKE' sinks, and a family bathroom.

Externally there is off road parking, a block paved frontage with a brick retaining wall and a rear garden with a patio and lawned area enclosed by timber panel fencing.

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PROPERTY TALK



>with NIGEL LEWIS

Has Broadchurch kiosk got it licked?

THE ability of TV series to help make tourist destinations popular is illustrated well by this ice-cream hut, which is to be auctioned soon and expected to fetch £65,000.

The detached shack in the South West is near a popular beach and was bought, according to the Dorset Echo, for £26,000. They have since spent £15,000 doing it up.

Auctioneer Clive Emson says interest in the kiosk has been whipped up to a large extent by the popularity of TV series Broadchurch, which in recent years has completed much of its filming in the streets of West Bay, where the hut is located.



their roles of Detectives Miller and Hardy.

Sir Lenny Henry is also set to join the show's cast along with other new characters played by Sarah Parish, Roy Hudd and former Coronation Street star Julie Hesmondalgh.

Although the shack has been used as an ice cream kiosk in recent years, the auctioneers reckon it could be used for residential purposes, pending planning permission.

www.cliveemson.co.uk, 01392 366555



Prince's secret Spanish villa for sale

MUSIC lovers still mourning Prince after his shock death in April will soon find out what made the flamboyant pop legend feel at home.

Set to rival Elvis' Graceland in Memphis, Prince's £4.6m Paisley Park home in Minnesota is going to become a museum, where visitors can have a good poke around the extravagant complex, complete with recording studio, massive wardrobe, studio and dance rehearsal room.

Prince also spent time on the Costa del Sol, where he bought a luxury pad for ex-wife Mayte Garcia as a wedding gift after

falling in love with Spain while performing a concert in Marbella in 1990.

The musician decorated the home with his signature style, painting rooms in his favourite colour purple and inscribing a wardrobe of crystal, wood and gold with his trademark symbol. But the couple divorced in 2000 and Garcia sold the property in 2006.

His former seven bedroom Adorna Tierra estate is on the market again, with a price tag of 7.5m euros. Set in 1.45 acres, it's been completely renovated since the Purple One's day, but is still

pretty opulent with a grand, chandelier-hung entrance hall, sunken bath, outdoor Jacuzzi, air-conditioning throughout and marble floors.

There's a large living room, dining room and breakfast room, all with panoramic windows, along with separate guest house, swimming pool, tennis court and three garages. As you'd expect after having a reclusive owner, it's completely walled and private with top-notch security systems.

www.kyero.com/en/property/2714278

Newton house with an attractive force

Sir Isaac Newton's story reads like a rags-to-riches tale of a lonely fatherless boy from a sheep farm who went on to become a scientific genius and one of the greatest men of his age.

His work on defining and explaining gravitation as well as the three laws of motion are some of the most influential scientific theories every developed. But the well-known boffin was born prematurely in 1643 and not expected to survive infancy. Despite this, he'd become a professor of maths at Cambridge University by the age of 26.

When Cambridge University closed because of the plague, Newton went back home to Lincolnshire in 1666 and performed many experiments, famously observing an apple fall from a tree in his garden.

Woolsthorpe Manor in Colsterworth is now a National Trust property where scores of tourists and would-be scientists pay homage to his fruit trees. It's just down the road from this detached stone manor house with an interesting connection to the scientific genius. Not only is the staircase



James Abbott of Savills, says: "It is a lovely house with a versatile layout, which is positioned within very private gardens in the centre of the village."

On the market for £695,000, the property is set over three floors, within large grounds. It's stuffed with character, such as the stone inglenook fireplace in the sitting room and exposed beams and stone mullion windows in the four bedrooms. A large outbuilding houses a garage and workshop.

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You'd have to be Batty to buy this

AS the broom-wielding, humourless battle-axe in Last Of The Summer Wine, Nora Batty – with her curlers and saggy stockings – became a TV comedy icon.

Nora's pursuit by Compo provided some wacky storylines in the beloved BBC sitcom, including her scruffy suitor attempting to have his photograph taken in her bedroom and devising a complicated plan to establish her shoe size.

The tale of three eccentric old duffers ambling around a small Yorkshire town ran for 31 series and was finally put out to pasture in 2010. Actress Kathy Staff starred as Nora in the very first show in January 1973 and when Compo (Bill Owen) died in 1999, Staff announced plans to leave. She was persuaded to stay and, apart from a brief spell in the revived ITV soap Crossroads, continued to play the character until shortly before her death aged 80 in 2008.

If you're a Nora fan there's a veritable shrine to her in Last Of



The Summer Wine country, Holmfirth, which is currently rented out for £500 per week.

The two-bedroom house, which can sleep six, appeared in dozens of episodes of the world's longest-running sitcom, and has been up for sale at £169,950 although the owner is now open to offers.

It's got a lounge, dining kitchen and garden overlooking the river and the town. Signed photographs of Nora adorn the walls of one bedroom, there's a life-size cut-out of Compo in the bathroom and props used in the filming are dotted around the house.

www.ernest-wilson.co.uk, 0113 238 2900

Cottage with royal connections

VIEWERS of Sunday tea-time TV don't generally like surprises and those who tuned into the much-loved series Heartbeat got a gentle introduction to spin-off The Royal.

Not only did it keep the cop drama's Yorkshire setting and 1960s flavour but familiar Heartbeat characters featured in the first series including Gina Ward and PC Alf Ventress as well as Claude Greengrass, back from the Tropics with a mysterious disease which gave actor Bill Maynard the chance to lie in bed and order everyone around.

At the time, the show's directors reckoned viewers would get comfort from the odd appearance of people they knew. Other well-known faces joined the cosy cast, with Wendy Craig as matron and Ian Carmichael as hospital secretary T.J. Middleditch, in plots centred



around medical emergencies and the resulting moral dilemmas.

The Royal, which ran from 2003 to 2011, was already known to Heartbeat fans as the cottage hospital in nearby Elsinsby, a fictional rural seaside town, portrayed as being close to Heartbeat's home-town of Aidensfield. But it was actually filmed at the Red Court building on Scarborough's Esplanade – used as the hospital's exterior and still regularly visited by the show's fans.

Built in 1905, it was a hotel at one time but later converted into apartments.

A three-bedroom mews cottage in the building is now up for sale at £235,000. As the building's original coach house, its access is through a covered side entrance. It's set over two floors with lounge, breakfast kitchen and conservatory with communal gardens and off-road parking.

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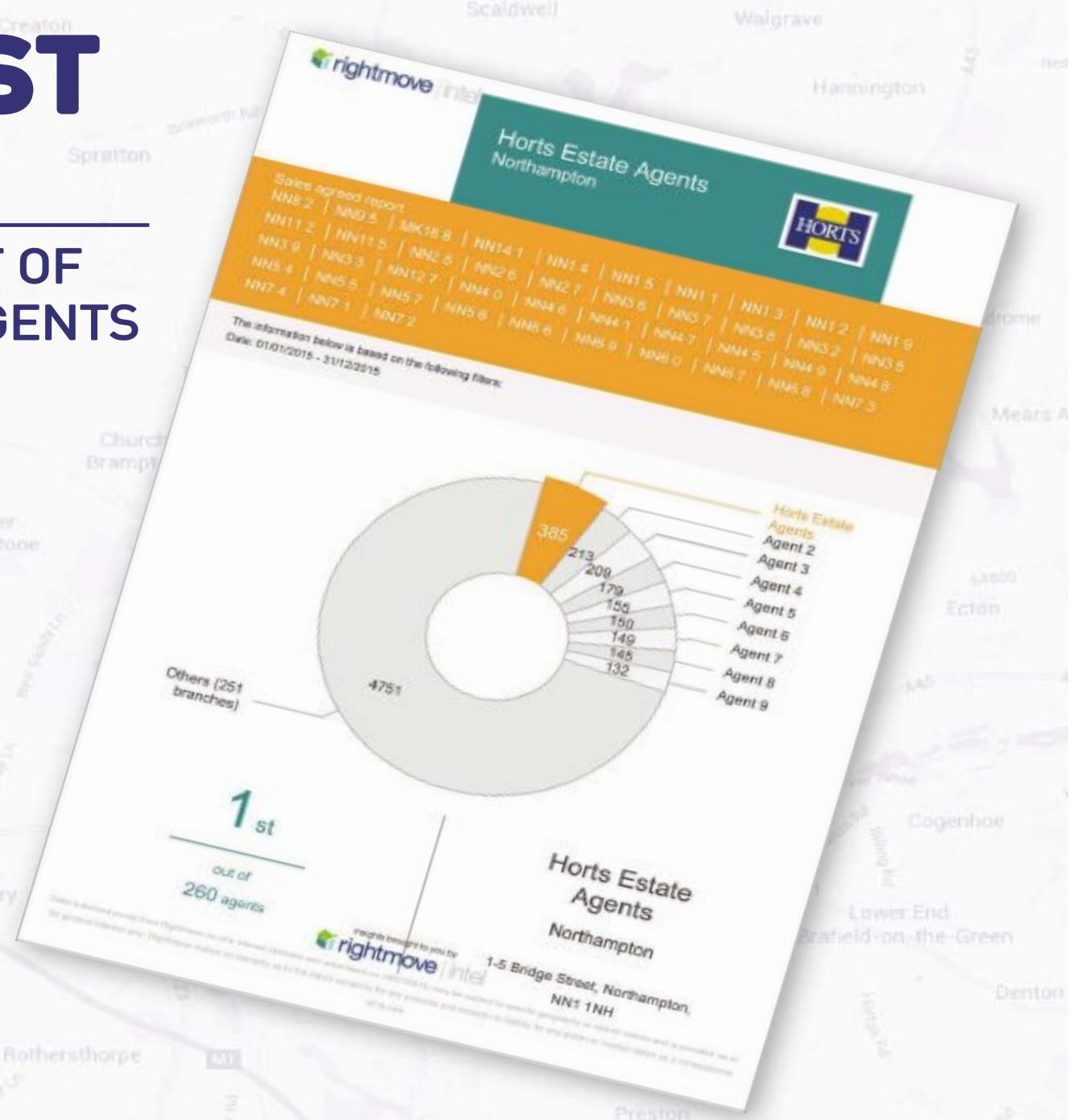
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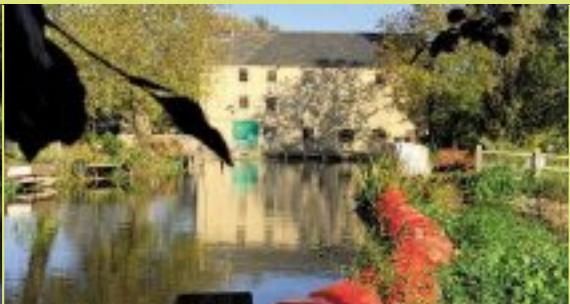
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MOTORING NEWS

Ultra exclusive BMW M3

BY CHRIS RUSSON

BMW is marking the 30th anniversary of the legendary M3 high performance saloon with a limited edition model that is destined to become hot property in more ways than one.

Not only is the BMW M3 30 Jahre Edition the quickest production M3, there's only 30 of them to be sold in the UK.

As such it carries a price tag of £82,675 which is some £23,000 more than the super-boosted M3 Competition Package model on which it is based.

According to BMW, the M3 30 Jahre Edition can sprint from 0 to 60 in four seconds flat - 0.1 of a second quicker than the Competition specification car.

Top speed remains restricted to 155mph and despite the 450bhp output of the 3.0-litre straight six engine and a seven speed DCT transmission, fuel economy is rated officially at 34mpg with emissions of 194g/km.

To mark the exclusivity of the anniversary model the car is fitted with a full set of performance systems including adaptive suspension, an active differential and a remapped multi-mode drive selector.

It also comes with special badg-



ing, sits on 20-inch alloys and has additional body kit in the form of a carbon fibre front splitter, mirror caps, rear diffuser and a carbon fibre rear spoiler.

There's also a black finish to the exhaust nacelles and the 'frozen silver' paint job has an appropriate hue for a pearl anniversary.

The front wing vents, which

carry a 30 Jahre logo, have also been redesigned specially for the anniversary car.

The cockpit includes light-weight, skeletal design sports seats, leather upholstery and black/blue stitching in the trim.

Completing the high performance image are alcantara finishes for the steering wheel

and gear selector. High tech kit features a head up display, adaptive LED headlights, ceramic brakes and a harman/kardon surround-sound hi-fi.

The first of the 30 Jahre specials will be released in the summer, 30 years after the first M3 was sold following its debut at the Frankfurt Motor Show in 1985.

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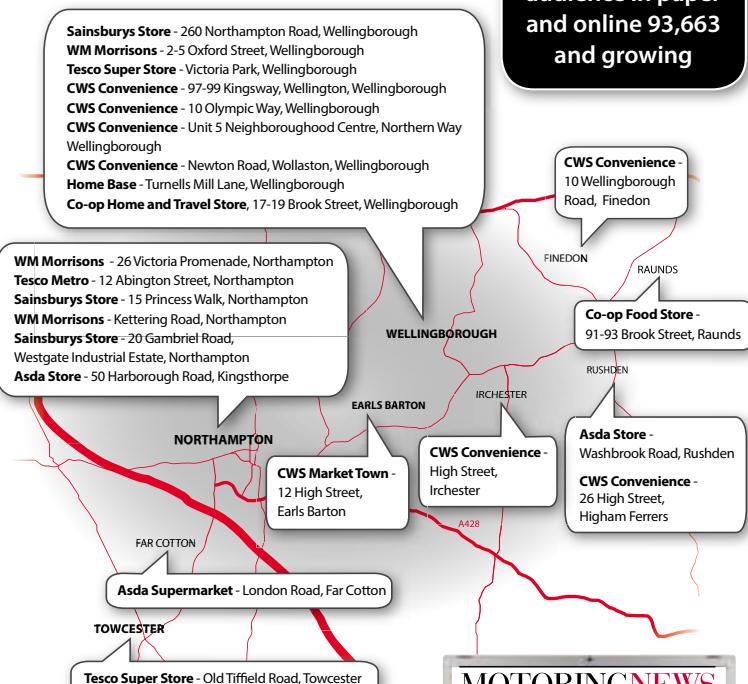
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Mazda MX-5 1.5 SE-L Nav

Take a look inside...

BY PETER KEENAN

THE Mazda MX-5 has been bringing smiles to faces for the best part of three decades – and the latest model is similarly a little ray of sunshine.

Launched in 1990 it boasted sleek good looks and a superb driving experience and down the years Mazda has focused on keeping those two key ingredients. Recently voted World Car of the Year at the New York Motor Show, the latest version of the iconic roadster takes its cue from the original.

So expect eye-caressing good looks and the agility of a jet fighter as well as the handy ability of being easy to live with on the daily commute.

Stylish LED daytime running lights kick things off at the front while silky smooth lines and perfect proportions guarantee it the attention normally reserved for A-list celebrities.

The interior features black cloth covered seats with red stitching as well as body colour co-ordinated upper door trim.

A seven-inch colour touchscreen provides access to the audio and sat nav systems while neat ideas include headrest speakers.

Internet radio, Facebook and

Twitter functionality are provided as is Bluetooth which can be accessed from the steering wheel-mounted controls.

Efficient air conditioning ensures a pleasant atmosphere if you miss summer's one sunny day to lower the fabric roof. I was lucky to be blessed with the bright yellow disc in the sky during my time with the roadster so I can report the manual operation to take the top off is simplicity itself.

The roof is stored behind the driver and passenger so doesn't impinge on the admittedly limited boot space.

The world's best-selling two-seat roadster is powered by either 1.5 or 2.0-litre petrol engines linked to a super-slick six-speed manual gearbox.

The 1.5-litre unit under the bonnet of the motor I drove is a rev-loving beast that makes a glorious sound.

It is a dream to drive with a new chassis and supple suspension aided and abetted by point and shoot steering providing thrills while letting you know when spills are imminent.

The well-equipped SE-L Nav is two steps up from the entry-level SE model, with two more lavishly equipped versions completing the range.

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Motoring News

Revamp for Vauxhall Zafira Tourer By: Chris Russon

VAUXHALL has released the first official images of its revamped Zafira Tourer MPV which will be on the road in the autumn.

With a new look nose featuring sharper lines and redesigned LED headlamps, the seven seater is also getting more onboard technology with Apple CarPlay and Android Auto connectivity as well as Vauxhall's OnStar emergency assistance system.

The images – although of a left-hand-drive model – show a redesigned dashboard with less clutter on the instrument panel and an integrated seven-inch touchscreen giving the driver a greater field of view.

Other high tech equipment includes an onboard Wi-Fi set up which allows up to seven devices to be connected as well as adaptive cruise control, automatic emergency braking and lane departure warning.

As with Vauxhall's latest Astra hatchback, the new Zafira Tourer can be had with an adaptive LED lighting system which automatically adjusts the headlamps to provide maximum illumination at night without dazzling other road users.

The new model is due for release in October and while prices have still to be announced, the current Zafira Tourer line up ranges from £17,305 for a 1.4-litre petrol model to almost £27,000 for a 2.0-litre diesel.



Nissan switches on solar farm By: Mike Torpey

NISSAN has switched on a new solar farm at its Sunderland plant in the North East, the latest landmark in the company's journey towards Intelligent Mobility.

Made of up 19,000 photo-voltaic panels, the new 4.75MW facility is now fully operational as the Japanese company strives towards its twin goals of zero emissions and zero fatalities.

The solar farm has been installed alongside 10 wind turbines already generating clean power for Nissan in Sunderland, the European production centre for the all-electric Nissan LEAF model and its batteries. Colin Lawther, Nissan's Senior Vice President for Manufacturing, Purchasing and Supply Chain Management in Europe, said: "Renewable energy is fundamental to Nissan's vision for Intelligent Mobility. "We have built over 50,000 Nissan LEAFs in Europe, and the industry-leading new 250km-range LEAF is now available. "With 10 wind turbines already generating energy for our Sunderland plant, this new solar farm will further reduce the environmental impact of Nissan vehicles during their entire lifecycle."

Nissan began integrating renewable energy sources in Sunderland in 2005 when the company installed its first wind turbines on site. The solar farm produces seven per cent of the plant's electricity requirements, enough to build the equivalent of 31,374 vehicles. It has been installed within the loop of Nissan's vehicle test track in Sunderland by partner company European Energy



Photovoltaics, with 100% of the electricity generated to be used by Nissan. Its installation comes as Nissan celebrates its 30th anniversary of manufacturing in the UK.

Pursuing a goal of zero emission vehicles and zero fatalities on the road, Nissan's Intelligent Mobility vision is designed to guide the company's product and technology pipeline. And breakthrough initiatives recently announced concerning electric vehicles include a future generation of electric vehicle batteries for the UK battery plant and a major vehicle-to-grid trial in the UK in partnership with energy provider Enel that will see Nissan electric vehicles supplying the UK's National Grid.

EXPERIENCE DELIVERS FOR FORD By: Ian Johnson



IN the world of commercial vehicles experience counts for a lot – and few manufacturers can get anywhere near Ford in that respect.

Ford commercial vehicle sales were at their second highest ever in 2015 and last month achieved an all-time best-ever record.

Last year Ford's commercial vehicle registrations exceeded 100,000, maintaining its position as the UK's favourite van maker, a status it has held for

the past 50 years. The Ford Transit has led the van market from its launch in 1965 and Ford's current CV range secured a 24.8 per cent share in 2015, up from 23.5 per cent in 2014. The brand's sales lead of 61,041 over its nearest rival – Vauxhall – increased by 38.8 per cent compared with 2014.

In 2015 some 429,576 commercial vehicle sales were recorded – up 16.5 per cent year on year – and Ford grabbed no less than 106,356 of them, a rise of 22.9 per cent.

Continuing the success, Ford went on to record its all-time best-ever month for commercial vehicle sales with 20,735 registrations in March 2016.

Highlights in that performance saw the Transit and the Transit Custom the most popular vans on the market with the Ranger pick-up truck also topping its segment as Ford grabbed 29.4 per cent of the total market.

Ford's recently extended line up of commercial vehicles now sees the Fiesta Van, the Transit Courier, Transit Connect, Transit Custom, Transit and Ranger all placed in the top three in their respective market segments.



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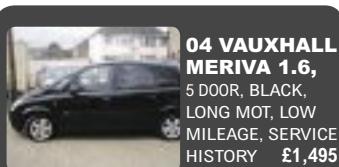
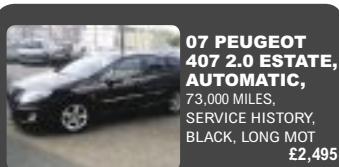
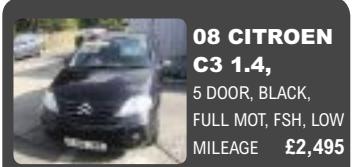
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MOTORING NEWS

Ford adds ST looks to Fiesta and Focus
By: Chris Russon



SPORTY looking versions of the Fiesta and Focus are on the way as Ford introduces a new ST-Line range of hatchbacks.

Resembling the hotter ST hatches the new cars come with body tweaks such as rear diffusers, honeycomb grilles and grey metallic finish alloys and interior features including sports seats, alloy pedals, perforated leather steering wheel covers and special sill plates.

But instead of uprated engines and sports suspension as used on the full blown ST models, the ST-Line cars are available with Ford's regular range of petrol and diesel engines and come with standard damping.

The ST-Line Fiesta and Focus will slot into the middle of the two line ups with the Fiesta ST-Line priced from £15,645 and the Focus from £20,595.

Both are available in either three or five door body styles and the Focus ST-Line will also be available with a six-speed semi-auto Powershift gearbox complete with steering wheel mounted paddle shifters

Volkswagen tees up a Golf match By: Mike Torpey



VOLKSWAGEN is extending the appeal of its Golf range of family hatchback models courtesy of a new £2,000 deposit contribution and 5.4 per cent APR for private customers who purchase a new Golf via Volkswagen Financial Services until Thursday, June 30.

The offer, activated when new customers take out a Personal Contract Purchase plan through VW, applies across the Golf hatch family – with the exception of Golf GTE, GTI Clubsport, GTI Clubsport S and e-Golf models.

The Golf hatch family is available in 12 trim levels and models, in three or five-door versions and the majority offering a choice of manual or automatic DSG gearboxes.

The range starts with the entry-level Golf S at £17,625 and rises in stages to the fiery Golf GTI – this year celebrating its 40th anniversary – and Golf R.

Tivoli launches a space invader By: Mike Torpey

FAMILIES, golfers and dog owners are the target audience of Korean company SsangYong for its new Tivoli XLV model due to arrive later this summer.

As an extended body version of the brand's popular Tivoli compact SUV, the newcomer boasts more carrying capacity and practicality.

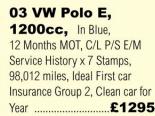
Passenger safety has been a top priority for this car, and comes with seven airbags including front, side and curtain bags plus a driver's knee airbag, multi-function ESP, Active Rollover Protection, Brake Assist, Hill Start Assist and Emergency Stop Signal. Tivoli XLV is offered with a 1.6 litre diesel engine producing 115PS and matched with the option of a 6-speed manual transmission or 6-speed automatic, two-wheel drive or 4x4. CO₂ emissions are 117g/km (two-wheel drive, manual transmission with Stop/Start) and SsangYong is claiming a Combined fuel economy figure of 62.8mpg. Prices will be announced later



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| 2014 14 CORSA 1.2 SE 5 door, black, 6,000 miles | £8495 |
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Public Notices

NORTHAMPTON BOROUGH COUNCIL

**TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE) (ENGLAND) ORDER 2015
NOTICE UNDER ARTICLE 13
PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS)
ACT 1990
THE TOWN & COUNTRY PLANNING (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT) REGULATIONS 2011**

N/2016/0050

Plough Hotel, Bridge Street

Reserved matters application in relation to outline planning permission N/2013/0442 (Outline application for a new 89 bed hotel) for appearance, landscaping and scale for 56 serviced apartments. Major Application

N/2016/0372

Billing Arbours House, Heather Lane, Northampton, NN3 8EY

Listed Building Application for the conversion of existing offices into 6no. dwellings including removal of internal walls, doors and windows, installation of new roof lights and new internal walls. Provision of new bin storage area and new railings. Formation of new parking area. Listed Building

N/2016/0709

Billing Arbours House, Heather Lane, Northampton, NN3 8EY

Conversion of existing offices into 6no. dwellings including removal of internal walls, doors and windows, installation of new roof lights and new internal walls. Provision of new bin storage area and new railings. Formation of new parking area. Listed Building

N/2016/0375

Billing Arbours House, Heather Lane

Listed Building Application for the conversion of building into a single dwelling including removal of windows, porch, dormer and internal walls, break out to form window openings, alteration to existing windows and door and new internal partition walls. Listed Building

N/2016/0710

Billing Arbours House, Heather Lane

Conversion of building into a single dwelling including removal of windows, porch, dormer and internal walls; break out to form window openings, alteration to existing windows and door and new internal partition walls. Listed Building

N/2016/0455

Cottage 2 Abington Park

Strip paint off four internal doors and apply fire retardant paint and fire door seal kits. Within a Conservation Area. Listed Building

N/2016/0476

B And C, 102A Abington Street

Erection of 6no. two bed flats located on the roof of the ground floor and associated car parking and install extraction flue. Affecting the setting of a conservation area and affecting the setting of a listed Building.

N/2016/0601

72 - 74 Overstone Road

Convert first floor storage areas to create two residential flats including extension to form new shared staircase access. Affecting the setting of a Listed Building. Within a Conservation Area

N/2016/0620

Lavender Cottage, 12 High Street, Wootton

Change of use of land to domestic garden and erection of boundary wall. Within a Conservation Area

N/2016/0588

2 Primrose Hill, Northampton, NN2 6ER

Rear Single Storey Extension and Rear Basement Extension. Within a Conservation Area

N/2016/0661

The Cloisters, 20 Newport Pagnell Road

Repairs to existing modern addition Conservatory including replacing existing windows and doors on like for like basis and replacing existing polycarbonate roof with new glazed panels. Listed Building

Members of the public may inspect copies of any application, plans and any other documentation submitted by visiting the Council Offices, One Stop Shop, The Guildhall, St Giles Square, Northampton, NN1 1DE during all reasonable office hours. Alternatively the plans can be viewed via the Council's website (www.northampton.gov.uk) using the Search for Planning Applications page. This will also tell you the current status of the application together with other useful information. Anyone who wishes to make representations about any applications should write to the Planning Division, Guildhall, St Giles Square, Northampton NN1 1DE or email planning@northampton.gov.uk by: 30 June 2016

S P Boyes, Director – Regeneration, Enterprise & Planning
Northampton Borough Council

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Example

NHP

Jefferson Neil
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loving you always
Lewis
XXXXXX

Public Notices**INSOLVENCY ACT 1986****IN BANKRUPTCY****NORTHAMPTON COUNTY COURT**

NO 322 of 1998 RE: JAMES GEORGE MCNEIL
Who at the date of the bankruptcy order 6/9/1998, resided at/trading at 18 The Slade, Silverstone, Northamptonshire NN12 8UH, as a Farm Contractor under the name 'J G McNeil'. D.O.B: 4 June 1944.

NOTE: the above-named was discharged from the proceedings and may no longer have a connection with the address listed. I intend to pay within four months from 6th July 2016 (being the last day for proving) the first and final dividend of 8.39 p/£. Creditors who have not yet proved their debts must do so by 6th July 2016 (being last day of proving) otherwise they will be excluded from the dividend. The required proof of debt form is available on the Insolvency Service website (www.bis.gov.uk/insolvency, select "Forms" and then form 6.37). Alternatively, you can contact my office at the address below to supply a form.

Mr D Gibson, Official Receiver and trustee,
LATADT, PO Box 4376, Companies House,
Crown Way, Cardiff CF14 8JX. Tel: 029 2038 0178
e-mail: RTLU.SouthWest@insolvency.gsi.gov.uk

NO 326 of 2006 RE: PENNY JANE COOPER
Who at the date of the bankruptcy order 29/3/2006, resided at 36 Roman Way, Irchester, Northants NN29 7EG. D.O.B: 22 March 1948

NOTE: the above-named was discharged from the proceedings and may no longer have a connection with the address listed. I intend to pay within four months from 14th July 2016 (being the last day for proving) the first and final dividend of 15.28 p/£. Creditors who have not yet proved their debts must do so by 14th July 2016 otherwise they will be excluded from the dividend. The required proof of debt form is available on the Insolvency Service website (www.bis.gov.uk/insolvency, select "Forms" and then form 6.37). Alternatively, you can contact my office at Second Floor, 3 Piccadilly Place, London Road, Manchester M1 3BN or telephone 0161 234 8500 to supply a form.

Mr D Gibson, Official Receiver and trustee

Local Authority Notices**NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**
ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 -**SECTION 14****THE NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNTY**
COUNCIL (LADYBRIDGE DRIVE,
NORTHAMPTON)**(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH****TRAFFIC) ORDER 2016**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Northamptonshire County Council intend, not less than seven days from the date of this Notice, to make an Order the effect of which will be to prohibit traffic from proceeding along that length of Ladybridge Drive, Northampton as set out below.

LENGTH OF ROAD TO WHICH RESTRICTION APPLIES: That length of Ladybridge Drive, Northampton from Claystones to Banbury Close.

REASONS FOR RESTRICTION: The restriction is required for safety during repairs to damaged man.

PERIOD OF CLOSURE: The proposed Order will come into effect on 27th June 2016 and will continue in force for a period of eighteen months. An application may be made for the approval of the Secretary of State for Transport for the Order to be extended if this proves necessary. However, the restriction specified will have effect only at such times and to such an extent as is indicated by the display of signs prescribed by the Traffic Signs Regulations and General Directions 2002.

EXPECTED DURATION: It is expected that the road will be restricted for two days.

ALTERNATIVE ROUTES: use Hunslet Lane, Hunsbury Hill Road and Danes Camp Way.

Dated this 9th day of June 2016

QUENTIN BAKER
Director of LGSS Law

PKG/T16/169

If you require any further information please contact Gary Thorp on 01604-883400.

GLW

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 -**SECTION 14****THE NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNTY**
COUNCIL (GAYTON ROAD, PATTISHALL)**(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH****TRAFFIC) ORDER 2016**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Northamptonshire County Council intend, not less than seven days from the date of this Notice, to make an Order the effect of which will be to prohibit traffic from proceeding along that length of Gayton Road, Pattishall as set out below.

LENGTH OF ROAD TO WHICH RESTRICTION APPLIES: That length of Gayton Road, Pattishall from Eastcote Road southbound to parish boundary.

REASONS FOR RESTRICTION: The restriction is required for safety during repairs to bridge parapet.

PERIOD OF CLOSURE: The proposed Order will come into effect on 17th June 2016 and will continue in force for a period of eighteen months. An application may be made for the approval of the Secretary of State for Transport for the Order to be extended if this proves necessary. However, the restriction specified will have effect only at such times and to such an extent as is indicated by the display of signs prescribed by the Traffic Signs Regulations and General Directions 2002.

EXPECTED DURATION: It is expected that the road will be restricted for one day.

ALTERNATIVE ROUTES: use Banbury Lane, Kislingbury Road, Rothersthorpe Road, Bugbrooke Road, Kislingbury Road, High Street and Camp Hill.

Dated this 9th day of June 2016

QUENTIN BAKER
Director of LGSS Law

PKG/T16/219

If you require any further information please contact Gary Thorp on 01604-883400.

GLW

Local Authority Notices**NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL****ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 -****SECTION 14****THE NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNTY****COUNCIL (MILL LANE, KISLINGBURY)****(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH****TRAFFIC) ORDER 2016**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Northamptonshire County Council intend, not less than seven days from the date of this Notice, to make an Order the effect of which will be to prohibit traffic from proceeding along that length of Mill Lane, Kislingbury as set out below.

LENGTH OF ROAD TO WHICH RESTRICTION APPLIES: That length of Mill Lane, Kislingbury from Mill Road to Dukes Green Road.

REASONS FOR RESTRICTION: The restriction is required for safety during installation of new electricity supply.

PERIOD OF CLOSURE: The proposed Order will come into effect on 21st June 2016 and will continue in force for a period of eighteen months. An application may be made for the approval of the Secretary of State for Transport for the Order to be extended if this proves necessary. However, the restriction specified will have effect only at such times and to such an extent as is indicated by the display of signs prescribed by the Traffic Signs Regulations and General Directions 2002.

EXPECTED DURATION: It is expected that the road will be restricted until 27th June 2016.

ALTERNATIVE ROUTES: use Bugbrook Road, Church Lane and Mill Road.

Dated this 9th day of June 2016

QUENTIN BAKER
Director of LGSS Law

PKG/T16/220

If you require any further information please contact Gary Thorp on 01604-883400.

Legal Notices**NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL****ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 -****SECTION 14****THE NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNTY****COUNCIL (PUBLIC FOOTPATH KW1 (PART) -****PARISH OF KISLINGBURY)****(TEMPORARY CLOSURE) ORDER 2016**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Northamptonshire County Council intend, not less than seven days from the date of this Notice, to make an Order the effect of which will be to prohibit all pedestrians from proceeding along that length of Public Footpath KW1 in the Parish of Kislingbury as specified below. Private access to land or premises adjacent to the said length of footpath is unaffected.

RIGHT OF WAY TO WHICH RESTRICTION APPLIES: The existing route to be closed begins at point A at National Grid Reference ('NGR') SP6854 5905. The route travels generally north east for approximately 213 metres to point B at NGR SP6869 5914. The route is shown by a solid black line between points A - B.

REASONS FOR RESTRICTION: The restriction is required for concrete repairs required to M1 Kislingbury Farm access.

PERIOD OF CLOSURE: The Order will come into effect on 4th July 2016 and will continue in force for a period of six months. An application may be made for the approval of the Secretary of State for Transport for this Order to be extended if this proves necessary. However, the restriction specified will have effect only at such times and to such an extent as is indicated by the display of notices.

ALTERNATIVE ROUTES: The alternative route starts at point A at NGR SP6854 5905. The route travels generally north west for approximately 162 metres to point C at NGR SP6844 5916. The route then travels north east for approximately 89 metres to point D at NGR SP6852 5920. The route then travels generally south west along part of KW23 for a distance in total of approximately 173 metres to point B at NGR SP6869 5914.

The alternative route is shown by a broken black line between points A - C - D - B.

Dated this 9th day of June 2016

QUENTIN BAKER
Director of LGSS Law

PKG/ROW/258

If you require any further information please call Richard Waterfield on 0844 372 8381.

GLW

PKG/ROW/258

Personals

All adverts must be pre-booked using a credit card. Advertisers in this classification must provide a verified name and address. we reserve the right to refuse advertisements and undertake to forward information to the relevant authorities upon request.

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4BS or ring 01257 482201

Personal Services

PERSONAL ESCORTS

WELLINGBOROUGH Victoria's
Sauna & Massage Services 01933
271964

INDEPENDENT ESCORTS to visit
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PERSONAL SERVICES

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offering escort services, no
withholding or texting. In Rushden
07733 166759

JASMINE THAI
Relaxing Massage
and escort
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Licensing Notices**Licensing Act 2003 | Application for a Premises Licence (Section 17)**

Notice is hereby given that Afroland Foods has applied for a Premises Licence in respect of High Street, Wellingborough, NN8 4HR for the sale of alcohol for consumption off the premises. The Licensing register may be inspected at the Borough Council of Wellingborough, Swanspool House, Doddington Road, NN8 1BP between 9am and 5pm. Any representation by must be made in writing to the above address between 02 June 2016 and 29 June 2016. It is an offence knowingly to make a false statement in connection with an application/punishable on summary conviction by a maximum fine of £5,000.

GLW

PKG/T16/238

If you require any further information please contact Gary Thorp on 01604-883400.

GLW

PKG/T16/238

If you require any further information please contact Gary Thorp on 01604-883400.

GLW

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days from
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days from
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per person

**Buy One Get One
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Promotional code 7H5MUB

Baltic Cities & St Petersburg Cruise

Sailing from Hull on board Marco Polo, departing Jun 2017

This springtime 'northern waters' cruise from Hull has as its highlight an overnight stay in the majestic city of St Petersburg. It also includes calls at Scandinavian capitals Copenhagen and Helsinki, with a chance to visit Stockholm from Nynäshamn, as well as Estonia's UNESCO-listed walled Tallinn, and Warnemünde, for an opportunity to visit historic Berlin. A transit through the Kiel Canal completes a cruise to remember.

Our price includes

- Wonderful, wonderful Copenhagen
- Take the shore excursion, from Warnemünde, to Berlin, Germany's historic capital
- Discover Tallinn, capital of Estonia
- Enjoy cruising in the Baltic's clear light
- Spend two days in St Petersburg
- Finnish capital Helsinki
- Take an excursion to Stockholm

from Nynäshamn

- Wake early to catch Marco Polo's transit through the Kiel Canal
- Traditional British & International cuisine, stylish entertainment, guest lecturers & on-board leisure facilities
- 12 nights' full board accommodation on board Marco Polo

*Book by 30 June 2016, quote promotional code 7H5MUB. Offer subject to availability & may be withdrawn at any time.

Fjordland Splendour

Sailing from Hull on board Marco Polo, departing 9 June 2017

Marco Polo's first 2017 sailing from Hull will showcase the glorious fjords of Western Norway at their spectacular mid-summer best, and will include marvellous ports of call and some unforgettable light evening cruising.

Our price includes

- Call at former fishing capital Stavanger
- Flåm lies at the head of mighty Sognefjord
- Åndalsnes sits on majestic Romdalsfjord
- Visit Bergen, ancient trading city and 'Gateway to the Fjords'
- Traditional British & International cuisine,

stylish entertainment, guest lecturers & on-board leisure facilities

- Eight nights' full board accommodation on board Marco Polo

*Book by 30 June 2016, quote promotional code 7H5MUB. Offer subject to availability & may be withdrawn at any time.

Iceland & the Northern Isles Cruise

Sailing from Hull on board Marco Polo, departing 17 June 2017

This very special midsummer cruise brings the chance not only to visit and circumnavigate the stunning land of fire and ice and its wonderful, fascinating capital Reykjavik, but also to discover and explore the beautiful, remote outposts of the Faroes and Shetland, and Highland gateway Invergordon.

Our price includes

- Wander the Toytown-like streets of Faroe's capital Tórshavn
- Charming Eskifjörður is gateway to Iceland's rugged east
- Húsavík is Iceland's whale-watching capital
- Discover magical West Iceland on a excursion from Ísafjörður
- Enjoy the delights of Reykjavik

- Explore ancient Lerwick, Shetland capital
- Invergordon offers opportunities to discover some Scottish beauty
- Traditional British & International cuisine, stylish entertainment, guest lecturers & on-board leisure facilities
- 12 nights' full board accommodation on board Marco Polo

*Book by 30 June 2016, quote promotional code 7H5MUB. Offer subject to availability & may be withdrawn at any time.

Call us on 0330 160 7782

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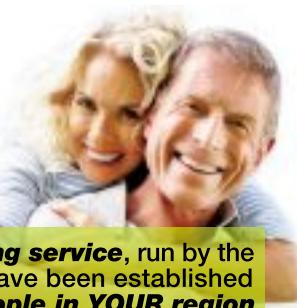
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by text

Simply text **REG** followed by your first name, date of birth, area and your advert (max 155 characters) and send to **80098**. Standard Network rates apply.

To Reply to members
from your landline call:
0906 515 4432

calls cost £1.55 per min plus your phone company's access charge.

Have the adverts 6-digit box no written down and do **key-it-in promptly** when asked. Don't forget to leave contact details for replies.

Or Text... REPLY (leave space) box number (leave space) and then enter your message & send to **80098** eg: **REPLY 123456 hi get in touch...** then send to **80098**. Successfully received messages cost £1.50 per SMS received (Max 160 characters). You must exchange 7 messages each before you can swap contact details. Messages may be moderated for your safety and security.

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calls cost £1.55 per min plus your phone company's access charge.

On-line dating is FREE to register, try it today
visit.. www.datelocally.co.uk



female seeking

REMEMBER: Calls cost £1.55 per minute plus your phone company's access charge. Texts cost £1.50 per message received.

ANNE, 40, pretty professional fun female with great curves, looking for fun and romance with down to earth male looking for similar. Any age/status. Tel No: **0906 515 4432 Box No: 422711**

KATIE, 35yrs, slender well educated blonde seeks no strings mutual pleasure with gent 40+. Must be discreet, married or single. ACA. Tel: **0906 515 3000 Box No: 419673**

JULIE, petite, slim attractive blonde young looking early 40's, enjoys winning, dining, theatre seeking good looking romantic male, 45-55, for mutual spoiling. Tel No: **0906 515 4432 Box No: 422709**

KIM, 32yrs, attractive blonde lady seeks discreet gent for daytime distractions. ACA. Tel: **0906 515 3004 Box 421657**

FELICITY, well educated, sophisticated lady, 38yrs, unhappily married and looking for a distraction with a man 30+, must be discreet. Text Only Box: **4022107**

SHEILA, beautiful lady, the colour of the sun, I am brown. I am looking for somebody caring, honest, loving, solvent, somebody who wants a serious relationship. Tel No: **0906 515 4432 Box No: 422689**

JANE, young 41, very broadminded seeks charr any age for discreet no strings fun, any age, no time wasters ACA. Tel: **0906 515 3008 Box: 409715**

SARA 34y old single mum looking for a genuine male to make me laugh again and help put the spark back into my life. Looks unimportant. Tel No: **0906 515 4432 Box No: 422541**

LUCY first time advertiser, 32yrs, tall slim blonde airie worker, seeks discreet gent, any status for casual fling. Looks/age unimportant. Tel: **0906 515 3024 Box: 420237**

LAURA, single mum, 29yrs, blue eyed blonde, fair skinned, pretty. Lonely and seeking adult company when the kids are bed! ACA. Text Only Box: **4161735**

PAT, petite blonde lady, GSOH, young looking for her age, seeks genuine gent any age with GSOH. Tel No: **0906 515 4432 Box No: 4222393**

FEMALE, looking for an honest, caring, easygoing male. I am divorced and like walks, going for meals, cinema and love dogs. Text only Mailbox: **4539974**

KATHY, 45, curly blonde seeking reliable honest man who can get me out of this rut I am stuck in, open to new ideas and looking for someone special? Give me a try. Tel No: **0906 515 4432 Box No: 4222663**

LORRAINE bored 36y old looking for discreet no strings fun with like-minded uncomplicated male, any age/looks/status. Call me. Tel No: **0906 515 4432 Box No: 4222421**

CARING honest female WLTM genuine guy for LTR Glos/Bristol area. Text mail box only. Text only Mailbox: **4209465**

LUCY, 49, just looking to enjoy life, can you help? seeks fun and good times in or out, nothing heavy just no strings meets. Tel No: **0906 515 4432 Box No: 4222223**

FEMALE, 60s, young looking for my age, likes singing, dancing, meals in and out, theatre, fun to be with. Single would like to meet the same. Text only Mailbox: **5448634**

BROWN eyed brummie female, smoker, likes music, cinema, meals out, WLTM white male for LTR. Text only Mailbox: **4400186**

DAVE, slim fit healthy non-smoker seeks female in links for day time distractions text only. Text only Mailbox: **5471155**

MALE 60's, 6ft, N/S, nice looking, likes music, dancing, travel, seeking female for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: **0906 515 4432 Box No: 395423**

BIRMINGHAM female 65, smoker, likes music, cinema, theatre, meals out, WLTM male 66 - 73 for LTR. Text only Mailbox: **5474599**

RITA, seeks a genuine male for friendship, days out, shes very friendly, genuine and social, give her a call ACA. Tel No: **0906 515 4432 Box No: 422403**

MERRY, widow, dark hair, kind and caring, hoping to meet a kind gent for friendship, possibly more. ACA. Tel No: **0906 515 4432 Box No: 422339**

BARBARA, is a caring lady who seeks a man to care for, she will do anything to make you happy. Just give her a call today. Tel No: **0906 515 4432 Box No: 422411**

LUCY 37yrs 5ft 11ins blonde loves nightife, socialising, having fun, looking for guy who can make me laugh and promises a good time. Tel No: **0906 515 4432 Box No: 422455**

NICOLA 32yrs old slim sexy single mom looking for fun times maybe more with similar open-minded uncomplicated companion. Tel No: **0906 515 3032 Box No: 422410**

WENDY, mature, passionate ladylike divorcee seeks no strings casual friend/ship/wt/fun with gent any age. Tel: **0906 515 3032 Box 421605**

ATTRACTIVE female, 52, blue eyes, slim, outgoing seeks dark haired male for nights in or out, loves cooking and outdoors. Text only Mailbox: **5475229**

FELICITY, well educated, sophisticated lady, 38yrs, unhappy married and looking for a distraction with a man 30+, must be discreet. Text Only Box: **4022107**

FEMALE, kind, loving, honest, caring, no attachments to any other man. I am looking for a kind, loving, honest, caring male, somebody with no attachment to another woman, white and rich. Tel No: **0906 515 4432 Box No: 422689**

SHEILA, beautiful lady, the colour of the sun, I am brown. I am looking for somebody caring, honest, loving, solvent, somebody who wants a serious relationship. Tel No: **0906 515 4432 Box: 409715**

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MALE 60's, 6ft, N/S, nice looking, likes music, dancing, travel, seeking female for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: **0906 515 4432 Box No: 395423**

SUE, 40, easygoing smart stylish lady looking for genuine honest guy for friendship, meals in/out, leading to more. Any age/status/race. Tel No: **0906 515 4432 Box No: 422051**

TALL leggy slim blonde 37, attractive and very much single, WLTM fun loving guy 40-60yrs who loves food, wine, cosy nights in or out. Tel No: **0906 515 4432 Box No: 422029**

CILLA, 40, tall blue eyed size 12 blonde, loves horses, country/beach walks, cosy nights in front of fire, good wine/food, WLTM similar male who appreciates my interests. Tel No: **0906 515 4432 Box No: 422009**

SUE 38yrs enjoys most things, meals in/out, easygoing, broadminded, passionate, slightly feisty, looking for adult fun, call me if you're interested in spicing things up. Tel No: **0906 515 4432 Box No: 413007**

SINGLES IN YOUR AREA ARE LOOKING FOR FUN, ROMANCE AND MAYBE MORE!
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All messages received £1.50. Text STOP to 89990 or exit at any time. Minimum 7 messages must be sent before contact details can be exchanged. This service is not computer generated. Messages are responded to by real people.

Help: 0207 201 133 or email: support@jmediauk.co.uk

ROSEMARY early 50s, GSOH, likes meals out, travel, etc, looking for man to share these things with. N/S. Text only Mailbox: **507980**

CLAIREE new to the market and looking for a man to take me out and show me a good time. I'm 32yrs, single, attractive and ready to party. Tel No: **0906 515 4432 Box No: 421873**

JOANNE new to the market and looking for a man to take me out and show me a good time. I'm 32yrs, single, attractive and ready to party. Tel No: **0906 515 4432 Box No: 421873**

ROSE 38yrs, tall blonde, loves horses, country/beach walks, cosy nights in front of fire, good wine/food, WLTM similar male who appreciates my interests. Tel No: **0906 515 4432 Box No: 421873**

SINGLES male 50 medium build looking for someone to show me the ropes age between 60 - 85, txt only. Text only Mailbox: **542030**

BEN, kind caring gent, 37yrs, tall and well built with curly black hair. Own home, good job, just missing a special lady. Text Only Box: **4158248**

SLIM fit friendly single male 45 WLTM genuine single lady 25-40 for friendship fun and hopefully LTR. Norfolk/Suffolk area. Text only Mailbox: **4417158**

MIKE, 64, blue eyes and single, looking for that special lady for LTR. I enjoy walking, visits to the pub and animals. Text only Mailbox: **4359515**

JOANNE 51, enjoys cinema, eating out, live concerts, travel, WLTM loving, n/a lady, 39-54, for discrete fun. Tel No: **0906 515 4432 Box No: 422511**

MATURE male average build and fit WLTM a lady any status, 45-70, for discrete fun. Text only Mailbox: **5127746**

JAMES 46, blue eyes and single, looking for that special lady for LTR. I enjoy walking, visits to the pub and animals. Text only Mailbox: **4359515**

SLIM fit friendly single male 45 WLTM genuine single lady 25-40 for friendship fun and hopefully LTR. Norfolk/Suffolk area. Text only Mailbox: **4417158**

MIKE, 64, outgoing person, enjoys life, sports, cricket, nice meals out, holidays, WLTM someone to share interests and quality time. Tel No: **0906 515 4432 Box No: 422329**

ANNIE gay/ltwcd 51 year old looking for fun times with another cross dresser/transvestite. Text only Mailbox: **4172436**

NEIL, entrepreneur, lived abroad most of my life, back in England and looking for a lovely lady, 48 years upwards, to spend some time with. Tel No: **0906 515 4432 Box No: 422313**

ANNIE, 41, full figure lady 57 seeking similar female for 50 shades of fun. Text only Mailbox: **4636475**

Friends

JOANNE can you please call, you left a message on 21st August but no phone number. Tel No: **0906 515 4432 Box No: 395903**

gay seeking

REMINDER: Calls cost £1.55 per minute plus your phone company's access charge. Texts cost £1.50 per message received.

BLACK male seeking black male aged 25 to 30, for discreet adult fun, maybe more. Text only Mailbox: **5409036**

63YR old bi male seeks Asian male for lots of fun times. Text only Mailbox: **4172093**

ANNIE gay/ltwcd 51 year old looking for fun times with another cross dresser/transvestite. Text only Mailbox: **4172436**

60YR old bi male, looking for similar blt/CD male in Northampton area only for fun times. Tel No: **0906 515 4432 Box No: 406401**

ATTRACTIVE full figure bi lady 57 seeking similar female for 50 shades of fun. Text only Mailbox: **4636475**

MELANIE 47 seeks straight female friends for nights out, pubs, clubs, concerts, etc. Text only Mailbox no: **5345662**

ADULTS ONLY

Try saucy contacts, its FREE to view visit: www.saucycontacts.co.uk

Customer support
Call **0207 720 7130** Monday - Friday 10am - 4pm
or email us at support@jmediauk.co.uk

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Cobblers can do a Burton says Phillips

COBBLERS

Northampton Town's new right-back Aaron Phillips doesn't see why the Cobblers can't cause a few surprises in League One next season, citing Burton Albion's achievements this year as a perfect example.

Phillips joined the Cobblers on a two-year contract last Friday after being released by Coventry, a club where he had been on the books since he was aged seven.

Next season will be Northampton's first in the third tier of English football since 2008/09 and Phillips provides experience of playing at that level with the Sky Blues.

But rather than just thinking about staying up, the 22-year-old believes Burton, who won promotion to the Championship at the first time of asking last season, have shown that anything is possible.

Phillips said: "I think if you've got the togetherness, and everything like that, you just need to look at Burton, [who were promoted] twice in a row. Why can't Northampton do it?"

"I've seen the way they play and it's a good opportunity to push on and see if we can get into the promotion places, I think."

"By looking at the team, there is that togetherness – it looks tight and I think we've got a good chance."

Coventry is a club that connects Phillips and Rob Page, as the Northampton manager played for the Sky Blues for just over three years between 2005 and 2008.

Phillips said: "I do remember watching him play for Coventry around 2005, when I was a younger kid at the time so it is a bit crazy in that way. I'm really looking forward to working with him."

"I'd been there since the age of seven, so it felt a bit crazy [to leave], but that's life. The manager there didn't want me, so I'm just looking forward to showing Northampton fans what I've got and give it all I can."

Two's company for Hodgson



UP TOP: Our columnist would pair Harry Kane with Jamie Vardy v Russia

GRIPPED BY THE EUROS

BY TOM REED

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In a month where Britain votes to be in or out of the EU, Roy Hodgson's England will be aiming to stay in Euro 2016 for the long haul.

Hodgson has assembled the cream of English talent at chic French resort Chantilly but we still don't know what tactics are his cup of tea.

Cramming Wayne Rooney, Jamie Vardy and Harry Kane into a 4-3-3 v Portugal left a sour taste with the attacking players pulled too wide to be goalscoring threats.

Elsewhere, it seems that diamonds are not a goal's best friend given a diamond formation means that, once again, England would have several players out of posi-

tion in a major tournament.

Such tactics would be a gamble with the midfield might of Spain, Germany and France ready to expose any weakness.

It would be criminal if the French trade unions posed more of a striking threat than England's forward line and that means starting Spurs and Leicester hot-shots Kane and Vardy.

Euro 2016 will be the coming of age for the 4-2-3-1 formation and most teams risking only one forward. That's why Hodgson should make use of England's major strength in our attacking options and look to settle matches by the traditional route of scoring more goals. We have various midfield options to drop back into a 4-5-1 with games secured.

Every other competing nation, including Germany and Spain, covet the Three Lions' forward

personnel in Kane, Vardy, Sturridge, Rashford and Rooney. They'll know that England have the firepower to win tightly-fought matches.

That brings us back to the future and the 4-4-2 formation, so unfashionable that it could come back into style. Of course, England will have to be wary of Russia in the opener on Saturday but should be testing their centre-back pairing of Aleksei Berezutski (aged 33) and Sergei Ignashevich (36).

Hodgson has wrestled with the 'Rooney conundrum' but unless 'Wazza' is utilised as a straight striker or holding midfielder there is little to warrant his inclusion.

Dele Alli has done more than enough to deserve a start in central midfield while this writer would opt for the distributive guile of Jack Wilshere over the combative Eric Dier.

'Boring' James Milner looks a good shout to soften up the Russian rearguard before unleashing the two-footed Adam Lallana on tiring legs. That leaves the thoroughly underrated Raheem Sterling to cause havoc from his favoured left-wing berth.

England's defence picks itself, bar the suggested inclusion of the sturdy Kyle Walker over Nathaniel Clyne. Hodgson's team will have to grow into the tournament but watch out for Daniel Sturridge, the technically gifted finisher, who could return with a bang when hitting full fitness.

France, Germany, Spain and Belgium rank as contenders for the Euro 2016 crown but if Hodgson can give two strikers free rein in opposition boxes it could be red-shirted England giving the hosts the sacre-blues in the final on the 10th July.

Will Town stay white on track?

COBBLERS

Northampton Town have unveiled their white away shirt for the 2016/17 season, the first year the Cobblers' kit will be supplied by American sportswear giants Nike.

The kit went on sale on the club's online store straight after

the design was revealed at 9pm on Tuesday and went on sale in the new-look club shop yesterday morning.

The shirt features a stand-up collar, a warp-knit mesh back to aid ventilation and is made from Nike's latest Dri-FIT materials. It is complimented with black shorts and white socks.

An adult shirt will cost Town supporters £45, with junior sizes available for £36, and the Cobblers will be hoping the new strip will prove as popular as the pink shirts from last season.

Northampton have announced that the new home shirt will be launched as part of a club open day on Saturday 23 July.



ANOTHER WINNER: Northampton captain Marc Richards models the new away shirt



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BREATH-TAKING KNOCK: Rory Kleinveldt smashed 128 off 63 balls against Notts

Dominant display earns another win



COMEBACK TRAIL: Skipper Alex Wakely

CRICKET

Northamptonshire Steelbacks captain Alex Wakely was delighted with his side's 'complete performance' against Worcestershire Rapids in the NatWest T20 Blast last Friday as they thrashed their opponents by seven wickets at Wantage Road.

This was a superb display by the Steelbacks against a side that had won their previous three matches in the competition as last year's runners-up dominated with bat and ball to maintain their own 100 per cent record.

After restricting the Rapids to 144-5 in their 20 overs, the hosts comfortably chased down their target with 21 balls to spare with Josh Cobb helping them over the line with an unbeaten 56 off 45 balls.

It was also a match that saw Wakely make his return from a groin strain that had kept him out for the past week and it left Northants top of the North Group heading into the return fixture at New Road on Friday.

Wakely said: "I think it was the first time where we strung it all together. In the first two games, we batted really well but we didn't bowl too well.

"Against Worcestershire we showed what a complete team we can be when we string everything together.

"We executed our plans better, we looked more organised with the ball, the bowlers knew exactly what they were trying to achieve right at the start, in the middle and at the end.

"We restricted them to a below-par score and then the way we batted was just perfect, really. Hopefully it gives a bit of a statement to other teams that we're a very good team and we're going to be very hard to beat."

Northants fall just short in epic Trent Bridge run chase

CRICKET

Nottinghamshire Outlaws 445-8 beat Northamptonshire Steelbacks 425 by 20 runs

BY MATT WRIGHT
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That Northamptonshire Steelbacks head coach David Ripley was able to talk about 'what ifs' just shows the incredible effort his side put in with the bat in their 20-run defeat against Nottinghamshire Outlaws in their opening One-Day Cup fixture on Monday.

After being on the receiving end of the second-highest total in the history of List-A cricket, not to mention the highest one-day partnership on English soil, it was looking bleak for Northants.

Forced to chase Nottinghamshire's gargantuan 445-8, fears were raised of a worse outcome than their 220-run thrashing at the hands of Surrey at The Oval last season.

They were also without the injured Richard Levi,

who only appeared at number 11 out of desperation, but with Rory Kleinveldt playing the innings of his life, a cricketing miracle looked possible.

It was only after Kleinveldt fell with the score on 396-6 were they to be finally finished off in an astonishing match that saw a staggering 870 runs in total - a record in English one-day cricket.

Ripley said: "There's a lot of pride and there's a lot of feel-good factor coming out of that."

"Chasing such a huge score, the amount of times you dribble to 170 all out because you've got to keep going at the rate and you lose wickets and we would have lost by nearly 300 runs - imagine that."

"But actually, if Richard Levi would have been fit, we might well have won that game so we had a bit of bad luck."

"Rory put in a phenomenal effort, Adam Rossington at the start and that's not to take anything away from Riki Wessels and Michael Lumb - they were outstanding as well."

Lumb and Wessels were the story in the first part of this game as they piled on a massive 342 between them (a record List-A partnership in

England) for the Outlaws' opening wicket, with Lumb ending up with 185 and Wessels 146.

But they were almost trumped by Kleinveldt, who was batting with a runner yet hammered an unbelievable 128 off 63 deliveries that included ten fours and nine sixes - all on one good leg.

Ripley said: "I think he went in the side as well. If he wouldn't have gone in the side from swinging there, I think he would have got us there."

"He was really pumped, really determined to get us there and not only with the calf, but when he couldn't quite swing as fully as he was because his side was hurting."

"We're a bit of a walking wounded, which is a bit of a concern. We've got Olly [Stone] out, we might have Rich out and we might have Rory out, we've got to dig deep."

Ripley revealed Levi only batted because Northants had a sniff of victory, adding: "We weren't over keen, he couldn't move his shoulder, so we were playing it safe, but having come that close he wheeled himself out there. When we got to within about 50 we started talking about it."

Hill backed to shine with England

RUGBY UNION

Rugby World Cup winner Jason Leonard wants ever-improving Northampton Saints prop Paul Hill to take his superb form Down Under as Eddie Jones' England go in search of history against Australia.

RFU President Leonard won every conceivable honour in rugby union - Grand Slams, a British & Irish Lions tour in 1997 and

the 2003 World Cup - and believes twice-capped Hill could help set Jones' tyros on their way to greatness.

Jones has guided England to a Grand Slam and a six-game unbeaten streak, which they will aim to continue when they face the Wallabies in Brisbane on Saturday before further Tests in Melbourne and Sydney.

England have triumphed just three times away to the Australians and Leonard -

who was in the squad for two of those three wins - believes Hill can help the Red Rose add to that tally this summer.

"Paul is a talented prospect, he is getting game time, each time I have seen him so far he has looked good, he is constantly improving in the games he has been playing for Northampton," the 119-cap international said.

"Watching him at a senior level for England, I just

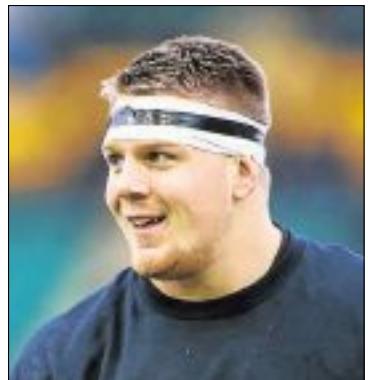
think this tour is perfectly placed for young players like him to come through and impress for the future.

"You just want to see everybody get an opportunity, but they have to grab it with both hands because there are a lot of good players wanting to do the same."

"I think the Australian side from the Rugby World Cup was a very good side, so for us going over there it is a challenge, but it is not an impossible challenge."

Leonard is backing Hill, who won 19 U20 caps and played in two World Rugby U20 Championship finals - clinching the 2014 crown - to convert that experience into further success with the senior side.

"We can see the pathway is there, we can see the players who have come through - have a look at the England players at this moment in time, people like Kruis, Itoje, Clifford," Leonard said.



GROWING FORCE: Saints tighthead Paul Hill

Herald & Post Sport

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'Patience is bitter but its fruit is sweet'

– Aristotle

Long absence for paceman Stone

CRICKET

Northamptonshire fast bowler Olly Stone is unlikely to play again this season after the club revealed he has suffered a compact knee injury involving his anterior cruciate ligament and cartilage.

The injury occurred in Northants' seven-wicket win over Worcestershire in the T20 Blast last Friday after he landed badly in jumping for joy after taking the wicket of England international Moeen Ali.

Stone broke down in his run-up in attempting to bowl his next delivery and had to be carried from the field and scans have unfortunately revealed the extent of the damage.

It is a fresh blow for the 22-year-old paceman, who has suffered several injuries that have hampered his progress in recent years, including problems to his fingers, shin and back.

In a statement, Northants said Stone has now been referred to Andrew Williams, an orthopaedic knee surgeon, who is a specialist with sports injuries and has been used by the club with previous players.

Barry Goudriaan, Head Physio at Northants, said "We will do all we can to support Olly through a programme of treatment and recovery. He couldn't be in better hands with our local consultant

Professor Bill Ribbons and now Mr Andrew Williams in London."

Northants captain Alex Wakely said after the Worcestershire game: "For me, he's one of the quickest bowlers in the country and it's just such a shame.

"He's such a nice guy as well and he doesn't deserve all this bad luck. In hindsight, we could have said he shouldn't have bowled, but at the time you can't do that – if he wants to bowl he wants to bowl."

COBBLERS

BY MATT WRIGHT
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Northampton Town manager Rob Page is prepared to bide his time when it comes to bringing in what he regards as the right type of players for the Cobblers this summer.

Former Coventry right-back Aaron Phillips became the first player to arrive at Sixfields since Page's appointment last month when he joined on a two-year contract last Friday.

Page inherited a strong core from his predecessor Chris Wilder, including key men from the last campaign such as John-Joe O'Toole, Ricky Holmes and Marc Richards.

But after the departures of Nicky Adams and Danny Rose, as well as the release of five other players, mean Town's squad does need strengthening before they take on the challenge of League One next season.

It is expected to be not until later in the month where Northampton will be bringing in any more players and Page is relaxed about the situation.

He said: "We don't want to bring anybody for the sake of it into this football club."

"This football club has had a fantastic season. If we're going to bring players in – and we're going to bring players in – we want them to be the right kind of player that fits the bill from a character point of view and ones that will benefit this football team as well."

"We've got to be patient at the minute – there will be signings made but, like I said, they've got to be the right signings and players that help us improve as a football club and as a team."

One area where Page now has some depth is at right-back, where Phillips will be competing with Brendan Moloney, who made the position his own last season.

It is that sort of competition that the Cobblers boss will be looking for throughout his squad in order for them to handle the step up in quality they're bound to face after their promotion from League Two.

Page hopes Moloney and Phillips will drive each other on, saying: "That's the idea, with



NO RUSH: Rob Page is prepared to wait for the right player to become available to Northampton Town

things changing with how we go about our business next season, going from [transfer] window to window with loans.

"It's important that we have that strength in depth and Aaron certainly gives us that and it's like I've said to any player coming in and any player already here, it's over to them now through pre-season to show me that they're there for the first game of the season to wear the jersey."

Page also revealed that he is currently

speaking to players already at the club, adding: "I'm making my way through the squad – I sat down with Rico and had a good conversation with him. He was very positive about the football club as a whole and rightly so. Like I said, they had a fantastic season last year and it's about building the momentum."

"I've touched base with a couple of others as well, basically saying that we're looking forward to next season and I'm looking forward to working with that group of players."

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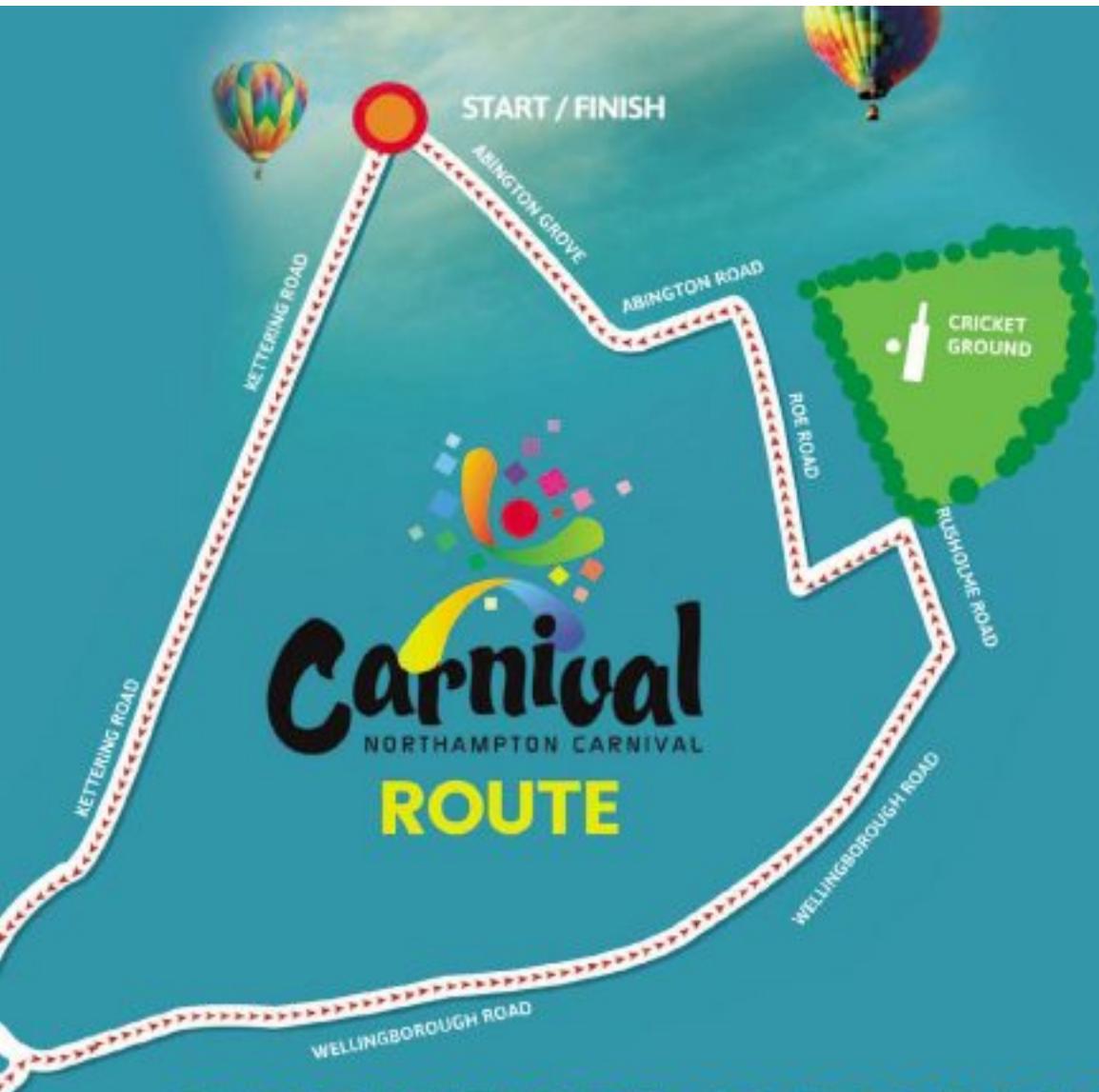
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